

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
8 January 2004 (08.01.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/002535 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **A61K 48/00**,
38/00, 39/395, 31/00, A61P 9/10, C12N 15/11

(74) Agent: **ÖHMAN, Ann-Marie**; c/o Hormos Medical Corporation, Itäinen Pitkäkatu 4 B, FIN-20520 Turku (FI).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/FI2003/000487

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(22) International Filing Date: 17 June 2003 (17.06.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
10/180,967 27 June 2002 (27.06.2002) US

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **HORMOS MEDICAL CORPORATION** [FI/FI]; Itäinen Pitkäkatu 4 B, FIN-20520 Turku (FI).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **KOULU, Markku** [FI/FI]; Kotikatu 4 B 7, FIN-20700 Turku (FI). **TUOHIMAA, Jukka** [FI/FI]; Hämeenkatu 8 B 25, FIN-20500 Turku (FI). **PESONEN, Ullamari** [FI/FI]; Luodikkokuja 6, FIN-20900 Turku (FI). **KALLIO, Jaana** [FI/FI]; Ritavuorenkuja 5 as. 1, FIN-20540 Turku (FI). **KARVONEN, Matti** [FI/FI]; Rakuunantie 36 a 1, FIN-20720 Turku (FI).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



WO 2004/002535 A1

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

(54) Title: USE OF AN NPY Y2 RECEPTOR ANTAGONIST FOR TREATING DISORDERS RELATED TO ANGIOGENESIS

(57) Abstract: A method of treating or preventing a disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels, including neovascular glaucoma, retinopathy, nephropathy, a cardiovascular disease or a cancerous disease. Said method comprises administering to a patient an agent affecting the neuropeptide Y (NPY) Y2 receptor. Said agent may be an NPY Y2 receptor antagonist, such as an antisense oligonucleotide complementary to any part of the Y2 receptor mRNA, an antibody against the Y2 receptor, an aptamer, a small interfering RNA molecule (siRNA), a ribozyme or a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor.

Use of an NPY Y2 receptor antagonist for treating disorders related to angiogenesis

5

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to methods for prevention or treatment of diseases or disorders related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels, i.e. any
10 disease or disorder in which angiogenesis is involved. The method is based on the use of targeted inhibition (or blocking) of neuropeptide Y (NPY) Y2 receptor mediated actions. The invention also concerns novel antisense oligonucleotides and their use in said methods as well as novel antisense oligonucleotides and their use in investigating the development of said diseases or disorders in experimental animals.

15

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The publications and other materials used herein to illuminate the background of the invention, and in particular, cases to provide additional details respecting the
20 practice, are incorporated by reference.

NPY is a neurotransmitter of the sympathetic nervous system, co-stored with noradrenaline in peripheral sympathetic nerve endings and released in response to strenuous sympathetic stimulation (Lundberg, Fried, et al. 1986 (1)). When released
25 from peripheral nerve terminals to arterial periadventitia NPY causes direct endothelium-independent vasoconstriction via stimulation vascular smooth-muscle cell receptors (Edvinsson, Emson, et al. 1983 (2); Edvinsson 1985 (3); Abounader, Villemure, et al. 1995 (4)).

30 NPY is widely expressed in the central and peripheral nervous systems and has many physiological functions such as in the control of metabolism and endocrine functions and in regulation of cardiovascular homeostasis.

- In addition to release from peripheral nerve endings to arterial periadventitia, NPY and NPY mRNA are also expressed extraneuronally in the endothelium of peripheral vessels (Loesch, Maynard, et al. 1992 (5); Zukowska-Grojec, Karwatowska-Prokopczuk, et al. 1998 (6)). The minor proportion of circulating NPY level, derived from the endothelial cells has been implicated to act as an autocrine and paracrine mediator and to stimulate its receptors Y1 and Y2 found on the endothelium (Sanabria and Silva 1994 (7); Jackerott and Larsson 1997 (8); Zukowska-Grojec, Karwatowska-Prokopczuk, et al. 1998 (6)). In addition to NPY, the endothelium can also produce NPY[3-36], a more specific Y2 agonist, from circulating native NPY by a serine protease dipeptidyl peptidase IV (Mentlein, Dahms, et al. 1993 (9)). Recent studies have demonstrated that stimulation of endothelial NPY receptors leads to vasodilatation (Kobari, Fukuuchi, et al. 1993 (10); Torffvit & Edvinsson 1997 (11)) primarily through Y2 receptor activation (You, Edvinsson, et al. 2001 (12)). In experimental study settings NPY has shown mitogenic action on smooth muscle tissue and vascular growth promoting properties. Grant and Zukowska demonstrated that NPY is a potent angiogenic factor that has promising potential to the revascularization of ischemic tissue (Grant and Zukowska 2000 (13)). The mitogenic effect of NPY has been speculated to be mediated via Y1 or Y2 receptors (Zukowska-Grojec, Pruszczyk et al. 1993 (14); Nilsson and Edvinsson 2000 (15)) and vascular growth promotion is mediated by inducible Y1, Y2, or Y5 receptors (Zukowska-Grojec Z, Karwatowska-Prokopczuk et al. 1998 (6)).
- Angiogenesis is involved in a variety of human diseases. The NPY system and Y2 receptor has been shown to play a role in the regulation of the formation of blood vessels and to be active during the development of retinopathy (Zukowska-Grojec Z, et al. 1998 (6); Lee EW, et al. 2003(16); Ekstrand AJ et al. 2003(17)). Thus, identification of agents blocking the NPY mediated action thorough Y2 receptor

may have potential applications in the treatment of a variety of human diseases.

It was recently reported that a rather common Leu7Pro polymorphism located in the signal peptide of the prepro-NPY is associated with higher prevalence of diabetic
5 retinopathy in type 2 diabetic patients (Niskanen, Voutilainen-Kaunisto et al. 2000 (18)). This study linked the NPY system with the development of diabetic retinopathy. However, it has not earlier been suggested to treat or prevent such diseases by affecting the NPY Y2 receptor.

10 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

According to one aspect, this invention concerns a method for treating or preventing a disease or disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient an agent
15 affecting the NPY Y2 receptor.

According to another aspect, this invention concerns an antisense oligonucleotide having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to any sequence of the human NPY Y2 receptor
20 mRNA.

According to a third aspect, the invention concerns an antisense oligonucleotide having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to any sequence of animal NPY Y2 receptor
25 mRNA.

According to a fourth aspect, the invention concerns a method for investigating the development of a disease or disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels in an experimental animal using an antisense oligonucleotide
30 having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to any sequence of animal NPY Y2 receptor mRNA.

According to a fifth aspect, the invention concerns a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide or a mixture of antisense oligonucleotides in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, said
5 oligonucleotide having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides and being complementary to any sequence of the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA.

According to a sixth aspect, the invention concerns an expression vector including a nucleotide sequence encoding an antisense oligonucleotide having a length ranging
10 from 7 to 40 nucleotides and being complementary to any sequence of the human or animal NPY Y2 receptor mRNA, in a manner which allows expression of said antisense oligonucleotide in a mammalian cell.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

15

Figure 1 shows the human neuropeptide Y2 receptor mRNA, illustrated as cDNA (SEQ ID NO:1). Three examples of antisense oligonucleotides are inserted in bold letters: AS-1 (SEQ ID NO:2), AS-2 (SEQ ID NO:3) and AS-3 (SEQ ID NO:4). Also a published PCR primer, namely 5'-CTGGCTGTCAATGTCAAC-3' (SEQ ID
20 NO:5), complementary to the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA is inserted.

25

Figure 2 shows the protein coding region of the rat neuropeptide Y2 receptor mRNA, illustrated as cDNA (SEQ ID NO:6). Nucleotide number 1 represents the start codon.

Figure 3 shows the development of induced retinopathy in rat puppies treated by i) vehicle, ii) scramble oligonucleotide, or iii) an antisense oligonucleotide complementary to NPY Y2 receptor mRNA

30 Figures 4 a-d show the efficacy of studied antisense molecules and their combinations in the prevention of tubular structures by hTERT-HUVEC cells.

Figure 5 shows as photographs the efficacy of different single antisense molecules and their combinations in the prevention of endothelial cell tube formation by hTERT-HUVEC cells.

5 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Our current results conducted using living cells derived from humans demonstrate that the antisense molecules directed against human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA are effective inhibitors of angiogenesis. Thus any compound preventing the NPY Y2
10 receptor transmission could be a potent inhibitor of tumor angiogenesis, and could have a more general interest in every disease in which angiogenesis is involved.

The wording "disease or disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels in a patient" shall be understood to cover any such disease or
15 disorder which can be treated or prevented by an agent to antagonize or block or prevent or modify the action of the NPY Y2 receptor.

Examples of diseases, the treatment of which could be clinically greatly benefited from the down regulation, or blockage of Y2 receptor, or prevention of the action of naive NPY or fragments of NPY (e.g. NPY 3/36 or 13-16, which are endogenous)
20 on Y2 receptor are non-neoplastic pathologic conditions characterized by excessive angiogenesis, such as neovascular glaucoma, any form of retinopathy, all proliferative retinopathies including proliferative diabetic retinopathy, retinopathy of prematurity, macular degeneration, maculopathy, micro- or macrovascular eye complications caused by diabetes, nephropathy, diabetic nephropathy, rubeosis
25 iridis, hemangiomas, angiofibromas, and psoriasis. This method is also effective for treating subjects with tumors and neoplasms, including malignant tumors and neoplasms, such as blastomas, carcinomas or sarcomas, and especially highly vascular tumors and neoplasms. Some examples of tumors that can be treated with the invention include epidermoid tumors, squamous tumors, such as head and neck
30 tumors, colorectal tumors, prostate tumors, breast tumors, lung tumors, including small cell and nonsmall cell lung tumors, pancreatic tumors, thyroid tumors, ovarian tumors, and liver tumors, vascularized skin cancers, including squamous cell

carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma, and skin cancers that can be treated by suppressing the growth of neovasculature. Other cancers that can be treated by the method according to this invention include Kaposi's sarcoma, CNS neoplasms (neuroblastomas, capillary hemangioblastomas, meningiomas and cerebral
5 metastases), melanoma, gastrointestinal and renal carcinomas and sarcomas, rhabdomyosarcoma, glioblastoma, preferably glioblastoma multiforme, and leiomyosarcoma.

However, the diseases or disorders are not restricted to the aforementioned list. Furthermore, the wording "disease or disorder related to excessive formation of
10 vascular tissue or blood vessels in a patient" includes further prevention of diseases or disorder directly derivable from the aforementioned conditions. Thus, for example, this wording also includes the prevention of predisposition to vision loss and blindness, which are consequences of retinopathy. Also metabolic diseases and cardiovascular diseases are included.

15

The diseases or disorders to be prevented or treated according to the method of this invention are particularly retinopathies or retinal neovascularization processes in diabetes like type I or type II diabetes, other metabolic diseases or cardiovascular diseases.

20

The term "NPY Y2 receptor" shall be understood to mean a receptor encoded by NPY Y2 receptor gene and mRNA (Gehlert, Beavers et al. 1996 (19); Rose PM, Fernandes et al. 1995 (20)) or active for NPY or a peptide fragment of NPY. Such a fragment can, for example, be the peptide fragment of NPY₃₋₃₆, NPY₁₃₋₃₆
25 (Wimalawansa 1995 (21), Grandt et al. 1996 (22)) or N-acetyl [Leu(28,31)] NPY 24-36 (Smith-White and Potter 1999 (23)) or the like.

The term "agent" shall be understood to include the compound itself (racemic form as well as isomers), and any pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives thereof, such

as salts or esters and templates. It shall be also understood to include peptide compounds and derivatives antagonising NPY Y2 receptor. It shall be also understood to include agents that direct the action of endogenous NPY Y2 receptor agonists and ligands away from NPY Y2 receptor, thus attenuating NPY Y2
5 receptor action. It shall be also understood to include any agent aimed at influencing any phases of NPY Y2 receptor transcription and translation processes, and any device or instrument (genetic or other) needed for this mentioned action.

The active agent to be administered can in principle be either an NPY Y2
10 antagonist, or a combination of an antagonist in a said NPY Y2 receptor and an agonist or an antagonist in another receptor, for example in NPY Y5 receptor. The same agent can thus be an antagonist in said NPY Y2 receptor and an agonist or an antagonist in another receptor. The same agent can thus be also a partial agonist.

15 According to a preferable embodiment of this invention, the agent is an NPY receptor antagonist. Y2 receptor antagonists have been described before in the literature. As an example can be mentioned BIIE 0246 (Doods, Gaida et al 1998 (24)). The suitable agent is, however, not restricted to the aforementioned examples. Any compound acting as a Y2 receptor antagonist is useful in the method according
20 to this invention.

It is also believed that an agent blocking or influencing/inhibiting the action of dipeptidyl peptidase IV and therefore prevention of the catabolism of NPY to NPY₃₋₃₆ and the action of NPY₃₋₃₆ and native NPY towards NPY Y2 receptor could be
25 useful. As an example can be mentioned Dipeptidyl Peptidase IV Inhibitor P32/98 (Pospisilik, Stafford et al. 2002 (25)) and dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor isoleucine thiazolidide (Rahfeld J, Schierhorn et al 1991 (26)). The suitable agent is, however, not restricted to the aforementioned examples. Alternatively, an antisense oligonucleotide, an aptamer or an antibody directed to dipeptidyl peptidase IV
30 would also be useful.

It is also believed that a combination of action on the Y1 and Y5 receptor in addition to Y2 antagonism and could be useful.

5 An Y2-receptor antagonistic molecule with a property of intrinsic NPY receptor stimulating activity on Y1- and or Y5-receptors, which by acting on NPY Y2 and/or Y1 and/or Y5-receptors prevents the development and progression of retinopathy and nephropathy, and which blocks inappropriate (excessive) vasculoproliferative actions (potential retinopathy and nephropathy and related conditions promoting effects of excess endogenous NPY) of endogenous NPY and growth hormone and
10 insulin like growth factor-I. Thus it is also believed that antagonising NPY Y2 action prevents the development and progression of retinopathy and nephropathy through reducing growth hormone and insulin like growth factor-I.

Thus, according to another embodiment of this invention the Y2 receptor antagonist
15 is also a Y1 or/and Y5-receptor agonist or antagonist.

According to a further embodiment, a separate Y1 and/or Y5 receptor agonist or antagonist is administered in combination with the Y2 receptor agonist.

20 According to further embodiments, this invention also concerns any method by which the prevention or down regulation of the action of NPY Y2 receptor is possible such as the use of an antisense oligonucleotide, modified nucleotide, sequence of combination of different kinds of nucleotides or any other sequence able to antagonize the action of NPY Y2 receptor or prevent or modify the NPY Y2
25 receptor synthesis, modification, activity, ligand binding, metabolism or degradation. The antisense oligonucleotide can be a DNA molecule or an RNA molecule. Ribozymes cleaving the NPY Y2 receptor mRNA are also included.

The ribozyme technology is described for example in the following publications:
30 Ribozyme protocols: Turner, Philip C (editor) (27); Rossi JJ. 1999 (28); and Ellington AD, Robertson MP, Bull J.1997 (29).

Also small interfering RNA molecules would be useful (30).

5 According to a further alternative, the agent affecting the NPY Y2 receptor can be an antibody raised against said receptor or raised against an Y2-specific epitope on the NPY peptide. NPY receptor specific antibodies are known in the art, but they have been used only to study the distribution of the Y2-receptor and other NPY receptors.

10 According to still another alternative, the agent affecting the NPY Y2 receptor can be an aptamer affecting the Y2 receptor or a Y2-specific NPY-conformation. An aptamer is an oligonucleotide affecting the protein. Many antisense oligonucleotides have also the ability to interact with peptides. There are known NPY aptamers affecting the Y2-specific NPY-conformation and thereby preventing the NPY from
15 binding to the Y2 receptor. Also aptamers affecting the NPY receptor are known. For publications relating to aptamers, see references 31-33.

The novel antisense oligonucleotides complementary to any sequence of the human
20 or animal NPY Y2 receptor mRNA, which according to the broadest definition can be of a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides, have preferably a length ranging from 15 to 25 nucleotides, most preferably about 20 nucleotides.

The term "complementary" means that the antisense oligonucleotide sequence can
25 form hydrogen bonds with the target mRNA sequence by Watson-Crick or other base-pair interactions. The term shall be understood to cover also sequences which are not 100 % complementary. It is believed that lower complementarity, even as low as 50 % or more, may work. However, 100 % complementarity is preferred.

30 In Figure 1 disclosing the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA (shown as cDNA; SEQ ID NO:1), three preferable antisense oligonucleotides of 20-21 nt are inserted in bold letters. Although a suitable antisense oligonucleotide could be created to any

string of 7 to 40 nucleotides in the shown mRNA comprising 4390 nucleotides, it is believed that the best target region in the mRNA is found in the beginning of the mRNA sequence, especially in the regions 1 nt to 2100 nt and 2200 nt to 2500 nt of SEQ ID NO:1, more preferably the regions 1200 nt to 2100 nt and 2200 nt to 2400 nt of SEQ ID NO:1, and most preferable the target regions defined by the specific antisense oligonucleotides shown herein. Furthermore, regions with inter se binding nucleotides (hairpins etc.) should be avoided. The publication J Tajti et al., 1999 (34) discloses a PCR primer, namely 5'-CTGGCTGTCAATGTCAAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:5), which is complementary to the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA (shown as cDNA) as indicated in Figure 1. This sequence was not, however, disclosed as a useful antisense. A revised sequence for human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA is available in Genbank and is set forth in SEQ ID NO:42. The coding region of SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:42 are identical, except for a C at nucleotide 2187 of SEQ ID NO:1 and a T at corresponding nucleotide 1431 of SEQ ID NO:42. The antisense oligonucleotides disclosed herein are identical in both sequences.

Normal, unmodified antisense oligonucleotides have low stability under physiological conditions because of its degradation by enzymes present in the living cell. It is therefore highly desirable to modify the antisense oligonucleotide according to known methods so as to enhance its stability against chemical and enzymatic degradation.

Modifications of antisense oligonucleotides are extensively disclosed in prior art. Reference is made to Draper et al., US 5,612,215, which in turn lists a number of patents and scientific papers concerning this technique. It is known that removal or replacement of the 2'-OH group from the ribose unit gives a better stability. Eckstein et al., WO 92/07065 and US 5,672,695 discloses the replacement of the ribose 2'-OH group with halo, amino, azido or sulfhydryl groups. Sproat et al., US 5,334,711, discloses the replacement of hydrogen in the 2'-OH group by alkyl or alkenyl, preferably methyl or allyl groups. Furthermore, the internucleotidic phosphodiester linkage can, for example, be modified so that one or more oxygen is replaced by sulfur, amino, alkyl or alkoxy groups. Preferable modification in the

internucleotide linkages are phosphorothioate linkages. Also the base in the nucleotides can be modified. Usman and Blatt, 2000 (35), disclose a new class of nuclease-resistant ribozymes, where the 3' end of the antisense oligonucleotide is protected by the addition of an inverted 3'-3' deoxyabasic sugar.

5

A preferable antisense oligonucleotide is a nucleotide chain wherein one or more of the internucleotide linkages are modified, and/or wherein the oligonucleotide contains locked nucleic acid (LNA) modifications and/or wherein the oligonucleotide contains peptide nucleic acid (PNA) modifications. Margaret F Taylor, 2001 (36) discloses a great variety of modifications. According to this publication, the sugar unit can, for example also be replaced by a morpholino group. This publication further discloses that different kinds of modifications inhibits the mRNA translation in different ways. All kinds of modifications described in this article are incorporated herein by reference.

15

The PNA technology is described in Ray A and Norden, 2000 (37).

Another preferable antisense oligonucleotide is a nucleotide chain wherein one or more of the sugar units are modified, and/or one or more of the internucleotide linkages are modified, and/or one or more of the bases are modified and/or the oligonucleotide is end-protected by an inverted deoxyabasic sugar.

20

As an example of preferred embodiments can be mentioned any NPY Y2 receptor targeted sequence of antisense deoxynucleotide phosphorothioates or oligonucleotides containing locked nucleic acids or peptide nucleic acids or ribozyme. Specific preferable examples are AS-1, which is 5'-CCT CTG CAC CTA TTG GAC CC-3' (SEQ ID NO:2); AS-2, which is 5'-GTTTGTGGCCCGTATTGTTCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:3) and AS-3, which is 5'-GGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACC-3', (SEQ ID NO:4) or longer sequences comprising these chains of nucleotides. All antisense sequences that can recognize and bind any part of the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA sequence, including all

25

30

occurring variations due to polymorphism in the human NPY Y2 receptor gene are also concerned.

As further examples of useful antisenses can be mentioned the sequences listed

5 below (SEQ ID NO:7 to SEQ ID NO:37):

- 5'- CTGCACCTATTGGACCCATT -3' (SEQ ID NO:7)
- 5'- CTCTGCACCTATTGGACCCA -3' (SEQ ID NO:8)
- 5'- GCCTCTGCACCTATTGGACC -3' (SEQ ID NO:9)
- 10 5'- CAGCCTCTGCACCTATTGGA -3' (SEQ ID NO:10)
- 5'- CGTATTGTTCCACCTTCATT -3' (SEQ ID NO:11)
- 5'- CCGTATTGTTCCACCTTCAT -3' (SEQ ID NO:12)
- 5'- CCCGTATTGTTCCACCTTCA -3' (SEQ ID NO:13)
- 5'- GCCCGTATTGTTCCACCTTC -3' (SEQ ID NO:14)
- 15 5'- GGCCCGTATTGTTCCACCTT -3' (SEQ ID NO:15)
- 5'- TTTTCCACTCCCCCATTAAG -3' (SEQ ID NO:16)
- 5'- ATTTTCCACTCCCCCATTA -3' (SEQ ID NO:17)
- 5'- CATTTTCCACTCCCCCATTA -3' (SEQ ID NO:18)
- 5'- CCATTTTCCACTCCCCCAT -3' (SEQ ID NO:19)
- 20 5'- CCCATTTTCCACTCCCCCAT -3' (SEQ ID NO:20)
- 5'- CTCAATCAGCGAATACTCCC -3' (SEQ ID NO:21)
- 5'- GATCTCAATCAGCGAATACT -3' (SEQ ID NO:22)
- 5'- GCCACAATCTCAAAGTCCGG -3' (SEQ ID NO:23)
- 5'- GGCCACAATCTCAAAGTCCG -3' (SEQ ID NO:24)
- 25 5'- GCATTTTGGTGGTTTTTGC -3' (SEQ ID NO:25)
- 5'- CCAGCATTTTGGTGGTTTTT -3' (SEQ ID NO:26)
- 5'- CCACACACACCAGCATTTTG -3' (SEQ ID NO:27)
- 5'- CCACCACCACACACCAGC -3' (SEQ ID NO:28)
- 5'- CGCAAACACCACCACACAC -3' (SEQ ID NO:29)
- 30 5'- GCCAGCTGACCGCAAACACC -3' (SEQ ID NO:30)
- 5'- GCCTTTCTGTAGTTGCTGTT -3' (SEQ ID NO:31)
- 5'- GGAAAGCCTTTCTGTAGTTG -3' (SEQ ID NO:32)
- 5'- GGCCGAGAGGAAAGCCTTTC -3' (SEQ ID NO:33)
- 5'- CCACTGTTCTTTCTGACCTC -3' (SEQ ID NO:34)
- 35 5'- GCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACCT -3' (SEQ ID NO:35)
- 5'- GGGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGAC -3' (SEQ ID NO:36)
- 5'- GGGGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGA -3' (SEQ ID NO:37)

40 Combinations of antisenses are also useful. Two or more of the antisense sequences SEQ ID NOs:2-4 or SEQ ID NOs:7-37 can be used, or any of these sequences can be used in combination with other antisense oligonucleotides such as human

vascular endothelial growth factor antisense (VEGF-AS, 5'-GCCTCGGCTTGTCACATCTGC-3', (SEQ ID NO:41).

5 The suitable agent is, however, not restricted to the aforementioned examples. Any compound acting as a Y2 receptor antagonist or attenuating Y2 receptor action is useful in the method according to this invention.

10 According to a further embodiment, this invention also concerns a novel antisense oligonucleotide having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to any sequence of animal NPY Y2 receptor mRNA. The experimental animal is preferable a rodent such as a rat or mouse. The term "complementary" shall have the same meaning as presented above for the human sequence.

15 These antisense oligonucleotides preferably contains one or more modifications as described above.

The invention concerns methods for investigating the development of a disease or disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels,
20 particularly any form of retinopathy, in an experimental animal using such antisense oligonucleotides complementary to animal NPY Y2 receptor mRNA.

As an example can be mentioned any NPY Y2 receptor targeted sequence of antisense deoxynucleotide phosphorothioates or oligonucleotides containing locked
25 nucleic acids or peptide nucleic acids or ribozyme. As an example of the sequence is a sequence containing 5'-CCT CTG CAC CTA ATG GGC CC -3'(SEQ ID NO:38) corresponding to rat NPY Y2 mRNA. The suitable agent is, however, not restricted to the aforementioned example.

30 For the purpose of this invention, the NPY receptor active agent can be administered by various routes. The suitable administration forms include, for example, oral or topical formulations; parenteral injections including intraocular,

intravitreal, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intradermal and subcutaneous injections; and transdermal, intraurethral or rectal formulations; and inhaled and nasal formulations. Suitable oral formulations include e.g. conventional or slow-release tablets and gelatine capsules.

5

The antisense oligonucleotides according to this invention can be administered to the individual by various methods. According to one method, the sequence may be administered as such, as complexed with a cationic lipid, packed in a liposome, incorporated in cyclodextrins, bioresorbable polymers or other suitable carrier for slow release administration, biodegradable nanoparticle or a hydrogel. For some indications, antisense oligonucleotides may be directly delivered ex vivo to cells or tissues with or without the aforementioned vehicles.

In addition to direct delivery of the antisense oligonucleotide, an antisense oligonucleotide-encoding sequence can be incorporated into an expression vector, and said vector administered to the patient. The expression vector can be a DNA sequence, such as a DNA plasmid capable of eukaryotic expression, or a viral vector. Such a viral vector is preferably based on an adenovirus, an alphavirus, an adeno-associated virus, a retrovirus or a herpes virus. Preferably, the vector is delivered to the patient in similar manner as the antisense oligonucleotide described above. The delivery of the expression vector can be systemic, such as intravenous, intramuscular or intraperitoneal administration, or local delivery to target tissue.

The required dosage of the NPY receptor active agents will vary with the particular condition being treated, the severity of the condition, the duration of the treatment, the administration route and the specific compound being employed.

The invention will be illuminated by the following non-restrictive Experimental Section.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

The present study was undertaken to determine the impact of NPY Y2 receptor targeted intervention on neovascularization and development of retinopathy.

Development of retinopathy was induced to newborn rats by cyclic hyperoxia and following relative ischemia-induced retinal neovascularization. Hyperoxemia is toxic to developing retinal vessels causing damage and hypoxia in the retina. After moving to normal air, relative hypoxia follows further promoting neovascularization of the retina.

Three groups of rat puppies were subjected for different treatments; 1) vehicle, 2) NPY Y2 receptor targeted antisense oligonucleotide sequence, and 3) scramble oligonucleotide sequence containing the same oligonucleotides as NPY Y2 receptor targeted antisense oligonucleotide sequence. The treatments were administered intraperitoneally. The retinal vessels were investigated and retinopathic changes were compared between treatment groups.

Retinopathy was assessed after injection of fluorescent-labelled dextran to the circulation. The eyes were flat-mounted on slides and the retinal vessels were visualized and investigated by fluorescence microscopy. Statistical differences were calculated between the study groups.

Retinal neovascularization protocol

Study protocol was approved by the Joint Ethics Committee of Turku University. Development of retinopathy was induced to newborn rats (Sprague Dawley) by cyclic hyperoxia and following relative ischemia. Hyperoxia is toxic to developing retinal vessels causing damage and hypoxia in the retina, which induces neovascularization. After moving to normal air, relative hypoxia follows further promoting neovascularization of the retina. Hypoxia is one of the major causes of retinal neovascularization in human retinopathies also. The newborn rats were kept in a hyperoxic incubator with their mothers. Retinal neovascularization was induced simultaneously for all three groups of puppies. One treatment group consisted

originally of 7 puppies, which underwent cyclic hyperoxia at the age of 3 days, continued until at the age of 14 days and remained in normal room air from the age of 14 to 17 days. The amount of oxygen inside the incubator was kept at 40% and 80% in 12 hour cycles for 10 days (days from 3 to 13).

5

Treatments

The three groups of puppies were subjected for different treatments; 1) plain vehicle, 2) NPY Y2 receptor targeted antisense oligodeoxynucleotide sequence (5'-
10 CCT CTG CAC CTA ATG GGC CC -3' (SEQ ID NO:38), containing 20 thioate modified bases) diluted in vehicle and 3) scramble oligodeoxynucleotide sequence containing the same deoxynucleotides as NPY Y2 receptor targeted antisense oligodeoxynucleotide sequence but in a random order (5'-CCA TGG TAA TCC GCC GCT CC-3' (SEQ ID NO:39), containing 20 thioate modified bases) diluted in
15 vehicle. The treatments were administered intraperitoneally. The retinal vessels were investigated and retinopathic changes were compared between treatment groups. The used NPY Y2 receptor targeted antisense deoxynucleotide sequence was designed complementary to next 20 bases from NPY Y2 gene transcription initiation codon (ATG).

20

Assessment of retinopathy and retinal neovascularization

At the age of 20 days, rats were decapitated and eyes were collected. Retinopathy and retinal neovascularization was assessed after an injection of fluorescent-labelled
25 dextran to the circulation through heart puncture. One eye from each puppy was used for visualization of retinal vessels. The eyes were flat-mounted on slides and the retinal vessels were visualized and investigated by fluorescence microscopy. Pictures of retinas were acquired using a Leica DMR/DC100 microscope and Leica DC Wier software.

30

Statistical methods

The amount of retinal capillaries was analyzed by counting the amount of vessels crossed by a constant length line using plot profile analysis (Image-J 2.6 program). Each retina was analyzed in 3-5 representative areas and the mean values were used for further statistical analysis. Only unfolded retinal preparations were used in order to avoid artificial images of neovascularization. Five eyes from study group 1, and four eyes from study groups 2 and 3 were found unfolded and used for fluorescence microscopy and statistical analyses. Differences between study populations were calculated using Oneway anova followed by post hoc tests (Tukey HSD). P-value less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant. The results are expressed as mean \pm SD and range.

Results

Retinal neovascularization and retinopathy was statistically significantly different between the treatment groups ($p < 0.001$, Oneway anova). In vehicle and scramble treatment groups, the fluorescein images showed clearly an irregular and disrupted retinal capillary vessel formation, which was accompanied with blurred fluorescent emitting areas (Figure 3). In Y2-antisense treatment group capillary vessel formation was regular and continuous and gives an impression of healthy retina without observable pathological changes. In post hoc analyses the Y2-antisense treatment group had statistically significantly less neovascularization, when compared to both vehicle treatment group ($p < 0.001$ mean difference 5.40, 95% confidence interval for the difference 2.48-8.33), and to scramble treatment group ($p < 0.001$ mean difference 6.53, 95% confidence interval for the difference 3.76-9.31). There was no difference in retinal neovascularization between vehicle and scramble treatment groups.

Table 1 below shows the mean values of quantitated neovascularization, representing retinopathy, in the three different study groups. The development of retinopathy was evident in vehicle and scramble treated groups of puppies, whereas prevented in NPY Y2 antisense treated group.

Table 1. Characteristics and statistical analysis of the retinal preparations of different treatment groups.

Treatment group, n	Mean \pm SD	Range	p-value for statistical significance
Vehicle, 4	29.99 \pm 2.40	28.20 - 33.30	
Y2-antisense, 4	24.58 \pm 0.84	23.75 - 25.75	*<0.001 #<0.001
Scramble, 5	31.12 \pm 0.93	30.33 - 32.25	* 0.527

* Tukey HSD, compared to Vehicle. # Tukey HSD, compared to Scramble.

- 5 This study demonstrates that development of retinopathy and retinal neovascularizations can be prevented by NPY Y2-receptor targeted oligonucleotide antisense therapy, evidenced by comparison to plain vehicle and control non Y2-antisense deoxyoligonucleotide sequence. The result of this study first time emphasizes the role of NPY Y2-receptor in the treatment and prevention of
- 10 retinopathy and retinal neovascularization.

Our finding of prevention of retinopathy and inappropriate vascular proliferation with NPY Y2 receptor targeted antisense therapy is novel. Only one previous study has linked NPY-system and potentially altered NPY action with diabetic retinopathy

15 (Niskanen, Voutilainen-Kaunisto et al. 2000 (18)). This finding is of therapeutic potential for prevention and treatment of diabetic retinopathy and closely related diseases due to inappropriate vascular proliferation. Therefore diabetic nephropathy is also potentially preventable and treatable with NPY Y2 receptor targeted therapy, since diabetic nephropathy is also associated with in appropriate vessel growth and

20 vascular tissue mitogenesis (Del Prete, Anglani et al. 1998 (38)). In addition, elevated immunoreactive NPY concentrations has been associated with diabetic nephropathy (Satoh, Satoh et al. 1999 (39)).

Hypoxia induce vascular proliferation is commonly used experimental model for

25 studying the mechanisms involved in pathophysiology of retinopathy and effects of novel therapies to treat and prevent retinopathy (Smith, Shen et al. 1999 (40); Smith, Kopchick et al. 1997 (41); Ozaki, Seo et al. 2000 (42)). The used retinopathy

model has its limitations but can be considered sufficient and useful in order to elucidate receptor level mechanisms leading to and involved in the pathophysiology of variety of retinopathies, since vascular damage and ischemia are essentially involved in the development of retinal neovascularization in all retinopathies.

- 5 Preventing NPY Y2 receptor action blocks retinal neovascularization and is therefore an excellent target for treatment of diabetes associated retinopathy, other proliferative retinopathies like retinopathy of prematurity and other ischemic retinopathies.
- 10 A further experiment was carried out in order to study the effect of single antisense molecules and their combinations in the prevention of endothelial cell tube formation by immortal human umbilical vein endothelial cells (hTERT-HUVECs).

Cell culture

15

Immortal human umbilical vein endothelial cells (hTERT-HUVECs) were obtained from Geron Corporation (Menlo Park, CA, U.S.A.). hTERT-HUVECs were maintained on a gelatin-coated 100-mm dishes (Corning Costar, NY, U.S.A) in growth medium, composed of M199 medium (Gibco, Paisley, Scotland) supplement
20 with 15% (v/v) heat-inactivated fetal bovine serum (Gibco BRL), 2 mM L-glutamine (Gibco BRL), 100 units/ml penicillin/ streptomycin (Gibco BRL), 10 units/ml heparin (Sigma) and 20 µg/ml endothelial cell growth factor (Roche Biomolecules) at 37 °C in a humidified incubator with 5% CO₂ atmosphere. Experiments were performed with cells between passages 20 and 24.

25

Oligonucleotides

- The following phosphorothioate oligonucleotides were synthesized: human neuropeptide Y2-receptor mRNA antisense molecules (AS-1, namely 5'-CCTCTGCACCTATTGGACCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:2); AS-2, namely 5'-
30 GTTTGTGGCCCGTATTGTTCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:3); AS-3, namely 5'-GGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACC-3', (SEQ ID NO:4); AS-1 control, sequence: 5'-

CCCAGGTTATCCACGTCTCC-3' (SEQ ID NO:40), and human vascular endothelial growth factor antisense (VEGF-AS, sequence: 5'-GCCTCGGCTTGTCACATCTGC-3', (SEQ ID NO:41)).

5 Liposomes

N-(1-(2,3-dioleoyloxy)propyl)-N,N,N-trimethyl ammonium methylsulfate (DOTAP) and 1,2- dioleoyl-3-phosphatidylethanolamine (DOPE) were purchased from Avanti Polar Lipids. Cationic liposomes composed of DOTAP/DOPE (1:1 by mol) were prepared as previously described (Ruponen *et al.*, 2001 (43)).

10

Transfection protocol

hTERT-HUVECs (5×10^4 cells/well) were seeded onto gelatin-coated 48-multiwell plates (Corning Costar, NY, U.S.A) and incubated overnight. For transfection, the growth medium was replaced with 400 μ l of transfection medium (M199 medium supplement with 2 mM L-glutamine and 100 units/ml penicillin/ streptomycin). Oligonucleotides (final concentration 1 μ M) and DOTAP/DOPE liposomes in sterile water were first diluted in MES-HEPES buffered saline (50 mM MES, 50 mM HEPES, 75 mM NaCl, pH 7.2) and then mixed together at a charge ratio +1. The transfection mixture was allowed to stand at room temperature for 20 min and the oligonucleotide/liposome complexes (100 μ l) were added dropwise to each well.

20

Endothelial tube formation assay

After transfection for 4 h hTERT-HUVECs were harvested after trypsin treatment, suspended in growth medium (200 μ l) and seeded in growth factor-reduced Matrigel (BD Biosciences) coated 96-well plates (Corning Costar, NY, U.S.A). After incubation for 3 h cells were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde. The formation of tubular structures in each well (7 fields/ well) was digitally captured using a Nikon Eclipse TE300 Inverted Microscope (Nikon, Tokyo, Japan) equipped with a Nikon F-601 digital camera (Nikon, Tokyo, Japan). Photographs were taken at 4x magnification.

30

The efficacy in prevention of formation of tubular structures by hTERT-HUVECs of all 5 synthesized antisense molecules were compared against each others alone and in combination. The number of tubular structures was analyzed by using Adobe Photoshop 5.5 (Adobe Systems Inc., San Jose, CA, U.S.A) and the results were expressed as means \pm SEM of three independent experiments. A set of three experiments was repeated.

Results

Figures 4a-d demonstrate the efficacy of studied antisense molecules in the prevention of tubular structures by hTERT-HUVECs. Figures 4a and 4b represent repeated sets of three identical assays, and figures 4c and 4d represent repeated set of other three identical assays. AS-3 antisense molecule shows the best efficacy in prevention of tubular structures formation by hTERT-HUVECs. AS-1 combined with AS-3 is the most potent alternative. The respective mean \pm SEM tube number/well values for single nucleotide assay 4a were: AS-1, 44.0 ± 5.6 ; AS-2, 70.3 ± 11.3 ; AS-3, 28 ± 7.1 ; AS-1 control, 49.3 ± 8.2 ; and control (non-treated), 60 ± 1.8 . For assay 4b: AS-1, 54.3 ± 10.1 ; AS-2, 75.0 ± 7.5 ; AS-3, 23.0 ± 6.7 ; AS-1 control, 57.0 ± 7.0 ; and control (non-treated), 58.0 ± 2.9 . The respective mean \pm SEM tube number/well values for combination nucleotide assays 4c was: AS-1 + AS-3, 11.3 ± 1.2 ; VEGF-AS + AS-3, 34.3 ± 4.5 ; and control (non-treated), 85.7 ± 3.4 . For assay 4d: AS-1 + AS-3, 32.3 ± 4.3 ; VEGF-AS + AS-3, 54.0 ± 8.0 ; and control (non-treated), 102.0 ± 8.9 .

It will be appreciated that the methods of the present invention can be incorporated in the form of a variety of embodiments, only a few of which are disclosed herein. It will be apparent for the expert skilled in the field that other embodiments exist and do not depart from the spirit of the invention. Thus, the described embodiments are illustrative and should not be construed as restrictive.

REFERENCES

1. Lundberg JM, Terenius L, Hokfelt T et al. Neuropeptide Y (NPY)-like immunoreactivity in peripheral noradrenergic neurons and effects of NPY on sympathetic function. *Acta Physiol Scand* 1982;116:477-80.
5
2. Edvinsson L, Emson P, McCulloch J, Tatemoto K, Uddman R. Neuropeptide Y: cerebrovascular innervation and vasomotor effects in the cat. *Neurosci Lett* 1983;43:79-84.
3. Edvinsson L. Characterization of the contractile effect of neuropeptide Y in feline cerebral arteries. *Acta Physiol Scand* 1985;125:33-41.
10
4. Abounader R, Villemure JG, Hamel E. Characterization of neuropeptide Y (NPY) receptors in human cerebral arteries with selective agonists and the new Y1 antagonist BIBP 3226. *Br J Pharmacol* 1995;116:2245-50.
5. Loesch A, Maynard KI, Burnstock G. Calcitonin gene-related pep. *Neuroscience* 1992;48:723-6.
15
6. Zukowska-Grojec Z, Karwatowska-Prokopczuk E, Rose W et al. Neuropeptide Y: a novel angiogenic factor from the sympathetic nerves and endothelium. *Circ Res* 1998;83:187-95.
7. Sanabria P, Silva WI. Specific 125I neuropeptide Y binding to intact cultured bovine adrenal medulla capillary endothelial cells. *Microcirculation* 1994;1:267-73.
20
8. Jackerott M, Larsson LI. Immunocytochemical localization of the NPY/PYY Y1 receptor in enteric neurons, endothelial cells, and endocrine-like cells of the rat intestinal tract. *J Histochem Cytochem* 1997;45:1643-50.
9. Mentlein R, Dahms P, Grandt D, Kruger R. Proteolytic processing of neuropeptide Y and peptide YY by dipeptidyl peptidase IV. *Regul Pept* 1993;49:133-44.
25
10. Kobari M, Fukuuchi Y, Tomita M et al. Transient cerebral vasodilatory effect of neuropeptide Y mediated by nitric oxide. *Brain Res Bull* 1993;31:443-8.
11. Torffvit O, Edvinsson L. Blockade of nitric oxide decreases the renal vasodilatory effect of neuropeptide Y in the insulin-treated diabetic rat. *Pflugers Arch* 1997;434:445-50.
30
12. You J, Edvinsson L, Bryan RM, Jr. Neuropeptide Y-mediated constriction and dilation in rat middle cerebral arteries. *J Cereb Blood Flow Metab* 2001;21:77-84.
13. Grant DS, Zukowska Z. Revascularization of ischemic tissues with SIKVAV and neuropeptide Y (NPY). *Adv Exp Med Biol* 2000;476:139-54.
35

14. Zukowska-Grojec Z, Pruszczyk P, Colton C, Yao J, Shen GH, Myers AK, Wahlestedt C. Mitogenic effect of neuropeptide Y in rat vascular smooth muscle cells. *Peptides* 1993;14(2):263-8.
15. Nilsson T, Edvinsson L. Neuropeptide Y stimulates DNA synthesis in human vascular smooth muscle cells through neuropeptide Y Y1 receptors. *Can J Physiol Pharmacol* 2000 Mar;78(3):256-9.
16. Lee EW, Grant DS, Movafagh S, Zukowska Z. Impaired angiogenesis in neuropeptide Y (NPY)-Y2 receptor knockout mice. *Peptides*. 2003 Jan;24(1):99-106.
- 10 17. Ekstrand AJ, Cao R, Bjorndahl M, Nystrom S, Jonsson-Rylander AC, Hassani H, Hallberg B, Nordlander M, Cao Y. Deletion of neuropeptide Y (NPY) 2 receptor in mice results in blockage of NPY-induced angiogenesis and delayed wound healing. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 2003 May 13;100(10):6033-8.
- 15 18. Niskanen L, Voutilainen-Kaunisto R, Terasvirta M, Karvonen MK, Valve R, Pesonen U, Laakso M, Uusitupa MI, Koulu M. Leucine 7 to proline 7 polymorphism in the neuropeptide y gene is associated with retinopathy in type 2 diabetes. *Exp Clin Endocrinol Diabetes* 2000;108(3):235-6.
- 20 19. Gehlert DR, Beavers LS, Johnson D, Gackenhaimer SL, Schober DA, Gadske RA. Expression cloning of a human brain neuropeptide Y Y2 receptor. *Mol Pharmacol* 1996 Feb;49(2):224-8.
- 25 20. Rose PM, Fernandes P, Lynch JS, Frazier ST, Fisher SM, Kodukula K, Kienzle B, Seethala R. Cloning and functional expression of a cDNA encoding a human type 2 neuropeptide Y receptor. *J Biol Chem* 1995 Sep 29;270(39):22661-4.
21. Wimalawansa SJ. Purification and biochemical characterization of neuropeptide Y2 receptor. *J Biol Chem* 1995;270(31):18523-30.
22. Grandt D, Schimiczek M, Rascher W, Feth F, Shively J, Lee TD, Davis MT, Reeve JR Jr, Michel MC. Neuropeptide Y 3-36 is an endogenous ligand selective for Y2 receptors. *Regul Pept* 1996;67(1):33-7.
- 30 23. Smith-White MA, Potter EK. Structure-activity analysis of N-acetyl [Leu (28,31)] NPY 24-36: a potent neuropeptide Y Y(2) receptor agonist. *Neuropeptides* 1999 Dec;33(6):526-33.
24. Doods H, Gaida W, Wieland HA, Dollinger H, Schnorrenberg G, Esser F, Engel W, Eberlein W, Rudolf K. BIIE0246: a selective and high affinity neuropeptide Y Y(2) receptor antagonist. *Eur J Pharmacol*. 1999 Nov 19;384(2-3):R3-5.
- 35 25. Pospisilik JA, Stafford SG, Demuth HU, Brownsey R, Parkhouse W, Finegood DT, McIntosh CH, Pederson RA. Long-term treatment with the dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor P32/98 causes sustained improvements in glucose tolerance, insulin

sensitivity, hyperinsulinemia, and beta-cell glucose responsiveness in VDF (fa/fa) Zucker rats. *Diabetes* 2002 Apr;51(4):943-50.

26. Rahfeld J, Schierhorn M, Hartrodt B, Neubert K, Heins J. Are diprotin A (Ile-Pro-Ile) and diprotin B (Val-Pro-Leu) inhibitors or substrates of dipeptidyl
5 peptidase IV? *Biochim Biophys Acta* 1991 Jan 29;1076(2):314-6.
27. Ribozyme protocols: Turner, Philip C (editor). Humana Press, ISBN 0-89603-389-9, 512 pp. 1997.
28. Rossi JJ. Ribozymes, genomics and therapeutics. *Chem Biol* 6, R33-7, 1999.
10
29. Ellington AD, Robertson MP, Bull J. Ribozymes in wonderland. *Science* 276, 546-7, 1997.
30. McManus MT and Sharp PA. Gene silencing in mammals by small interfering
15 RNAs. *Nat Rev Genet* 2002 Oct; 3(19):737-47.
31. Brody EN and Gold L. Aptamers as therapeutic and diagnostic agents. *J Biotechnol* 2000 Mar;74(1):5-13.
- 20 32. Patel DJ. Structural analysis of nucleic acid aptamers. *Curr Opin Chem Biol* 1997 Jun;1(1):32-46.
33. Stull RA and Szoka FC Jr. Antigene, ribozyme and aptamer nucleic acid drugs: progress and prospects. *Pharm Res* 1995 Apr;12(4):465-83.
- 25
34. J Tajti et al. The human superior cervical ganglion: neuropeptides and peptide receptors. *Neuroscience Letters* 263 (1999) 121-124.
35. Usman, N., Blatt, L. M. (2000) Nuclease-resistant synthetic ribozymes:
30 developing a new class of therapeutics. *J. Clin. Invest.* 106:1197-1202.
36. Margaret F Taylor. Emerging antisense technologies for gene functionalization and drug discovery. *DDT* Vol. 6, No. 15 (Suppl), 2001.

37. Ray A, Norden, B. Peptide nucleic acid (PNA): its medical and biotechnical applications and promise for the future. *FASEB J* 14, 1041-1066, 2000.
- 5 38. Del Prete D, Anglani F, Ceol M, D'Angelo A, Forino M, Vianello D, Baggio B, Gambaro G. Molecular biology of diabetic glomerulosclerosis. *Nephrol Dial Transplant*. 1998;13 Suppl 8:20-5. Review.
- 10 39. Satoh C, Satoh F, Takahashi K, Murakami O, Sone M, Totsune K, Yabe T, Ohneda M, Fukuda M, Sugimura K, Ogawa S, Nagakubo H, Sato T, Mouri T. Elevated plasma immunoreactive neuropeptide Y concentrations and its increased urinary excretion in patients with advanced diabetic nephropathy. *Endocr J*. 1999 Feb;46(1):139-46.
40. Smith LE, Kopchick JJ, Chen W, Knapp J, Kinose F, Daley D, Foley E, Smith RG, Schaeffer JM. Essential role of growth hormone in ischemia-induced retinal neovascularization. *Science* 1997 Jun 13;276(5319):1706-9.
- 15 41. Smith LE, Shen W, Perruzzi C, Soker S, Kinose F, Xu X, Robinson G, Driver S, Bischoff J, Zhang B, Schaeffer JM, Senger DR. Regulation of vascular endothelial growth factor-dependent retinal neovascularization by insulin-like growth factor-1 receptor. *Nat Med*. 1999 Dec;5(12):1390-5.
- 20 42. Ozaki H, Seo MS, Ozaki K, Yamada H, Yamada E, Okamoto N, Hofmann F, Wood JM, Campochiaro PA. Blockade of vascular endothelial cell growth factor receptor signaling is sufficient to completely prevent retinal neovascularization. *Am J Pathol* 2000 Feb;156(2):697-707.
- 25 43. Ruponen M, Rönkkö S, Honkakoski P, Pelkonen J, Tammi M, Urtti A (2001): Extracellular glycosaminoglycans modify cellular trafficking of lipoplexes and polyplexes. *J Biol Chem* 276, 33875-33880.

CLAIMS

1. Use of an agent affecting the NPY Y2 receptor for the manufacture of a
5 pharmaceutical preparation useful for treating or preventing a disease or disorder
related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels in a patient.
2. The use according to claim 1 wherein said disease or disorder is any form in
which angiogenesis is involved, including neovascular glaucoma, any form of
10 retinopathy, all proliferative retinopathies including proliferative diabetic
retinopathy, retinopathy of prematurity, macular degeneration, maculopathy, micro-
or macrovascular eye complications caused by diabetes, nephropathy, diabetic
nephropathy, rubeosis iridis, hemangiomas, angiofibromas, psoriasis, predisposition
to vision loss and blindness, which are consequences of retinopathy, a metabolic
15 disease, a cardiovascular disease or a cancerous disease.
3. The use according to claim 2 wherein the cancerous disease includes tumors and
neoplasms, including malignant tumors and neoplasms, blastomas, carcinomas or
sarcomas, highly vascular tumors and neoplasms, epidermoid tumors, squamous
20 tumors, head and neck tumors, colorectal tumors, prostate tumors, breast tumors,
lung tumors, including small cell and nonsmall cell lung tumors, pancreatic tumors,
thyroid tumors, ovarian tumors, and liver tumors, vascularized skin cancers,
including squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma, and skin cancers that can
be treated by suppressing the growth of neovasculature, Kaposi's sarcoma, CNS
25 neoplasms including neuroblastomas, capillary hemangioblastomas, meningiomas
and cerebral metastases, melanoma, gastrointestinal and renal carcinomas and
sarcomas, rhabdomyosarcoma, glioblastoma, glioblastoma multiforme, and
leiomyosarcoma.

4. The use according to claim 1 wherein said agent is an NPY Y2 receptor antagonist.
5. The use according to claim 4 wherein i) said agent also is a Y1-receptor agonist or antagonist, and/or ii) said agent also is a Y5-receptor agonist or antagonist.
6. The use according to claim 1 wherein said agent is an NPY Y2 receptor antisense oligonucleotide complementary to any sequence of the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA, said oligonucleotide having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides.
7. The use according to claim 6 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide contains 15 to 25 nucleotides, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide optionally contains one or more chemical modifications of the nucleotides.
8. The use according to claim 7 wherein one or more of the internucleotide linkages are modified, and/or wherein the oligonucleotide contains locked nucleic acid (LNA) modifications and/or wherein the oligonucleotide contains peptide nucleic acid (PNA) modifications.
9. The use according to claim 7 wherein one or more of the sugar units are modified, and/or one or more of the internucleotide linkages are modified, and/or one or more of the bases are modified and/or the oligonucleotide is end-protected by an inverted deoxyabasic sugar.
10. The use according to claim 9 wherein some or all of the sugar units of the antisense oligonucleotide are 2'-deoxyribose and/or wherein the internucleotide phosphodiester linkages are replaced by phosphorothioate linkages.
11. The use according to claim 6 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is selected from a group consisting of
- 5'-CCTCTGCACCTATTGGACCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:2);
5'-GTTTGTGGCCCGTATTGTTCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:3);
5'-GGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACC-3', (SEQ ID NO:4);

- 5'-CTGCACCTATTGGACCCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:7)
 5'-CTCTGCACCTATTGGACCCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:8)
 5'-GCCTCTGCACCTATTGGACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:9)
 5'-CAGCCTCTGCACCTATTGGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:10)
 5'-CGTATTGTTCCACCTTCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:11)
 5'-CCGTATTGTTCCACCTTCAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:12)
 5'-CCCGTATTGTTCCACCTTCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:13)
 5'-GCCCCGTATTGTTCCACCTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:14)
 5'-GGCCCGTATTGTTCCACCTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:15)
 5'-TTTTCCACTCCCCCATTAAG-3' (SEQ ID NO:16)
 5'-ATTTTCCACTCCCCCATTA-3' (SEQ ID NO:17)
 5'-CATTTTCCACTCCCCCATTA-3' (SEQ ID NO:18)
 5'-CCATTTTCCACTCCCCCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:19)
 5'-CCCATTTTCCACTCCCCCAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:20)
 5'-CTCAATCAGCGAATACTCCC-3' (SEQ ID NO:21)
 5'-GATCTCAATCAGCGAATACT-3' (SEQ ID NO:22)
 5'-GCCACAATCTCAAAGTCCGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:23)
 5'-GGCCACAATCTCAAAGTCCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:24)
 5'-GCATTTTGGTGGTTTTTGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:25)
 5'-CCAGCATTTTGGTGGTTTTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:26)
 5'-CCACACACACCAGCATTTTG-3' (SEQ ID NO:27)
 5'-CCACCACCACACACCAGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:28)
 5'-CGCAAACACCACCACACAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:29)
 5'-GCCAGCTGACCGCAAACACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:30)
 5'-GCCTTTCTGTAGTTGCTGTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:31)
 5'-GGAAAGCCTTTCTGTAGTTG-3' (SEQ ID NO:32)
 5'-GGCCGAGAGGAAAGCCTTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:33)
 5'-CCACTGTTCTTTCTGACCTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:34)
 5'-GCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACCT-3' (SEQ ID NO:35)
 5'-GGGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:36)
 5'-GGGGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:37);

- a combination of any of two or more of the aforementioned sequences or a combination of anyone of the aforementioned with another antisense oligonucleotide such as human vascular endothelial growth factor antisense VEGF-AS, 5'-GCCTCGGCTTGTCACATCTGC-3', (SEQ ID NO:41).

12. The use according to claim 11 wherein the sugar units of the antisense oligonucleotides are 2'-deoxyribose and wherein the internucleotide linkages are phosphorothioate linkages.

13. The use according to claim 1 wherein said agent is a selected from a group consisting of

- a peptide,
 - an antibody raised against the Y2 receptor or raised against an Y2-specific epitope on the NPY peptide,
 - an aptamer affecting the Y2 receptor or a Y2-specific NPY-conformation,
 - 5 - a small interfering RNA molecule, or
 - a ribozyme.
14. The use according to claim 1 wherein said agent is dipeptidylpeptidase IV inhibitor, or an antisense oligonucleotide, an aptamer or antibody directed to
- 10 dipeptidylpeptidase IV.
15. The use according to claim 1 wherein said agent is a combination of agents having ability to affect the action of NPY Y2 receptor.
- 15 16. An antisense oligonucleotide having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides, wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to any sequence of the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA, provided that said antisense oligonucleotide is not 5'-CTGGCTGTCAATGTCAAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:5).
- 20 17. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 16, which is complementary to the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA in the target regions 1.....2100 nt and 2200.....2500 nt.
18. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 16, wherein the antisense
- 25 oligonucleotide contains 15 to 25 nucleotides.
19. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 16 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide contains one or more modifications.
- 30 20. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 19 wherein one or more of the internucleotide linkages are modified, and/or wherein the oligonucleotide contains

locked nucleic acid (LNA) modifications and/or wherein the oligonucleotide contains peptide nucleic acid (PNA) modifications.

21. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 19 wherein one or more of the
5 sugar units are modified, and/or one or more of the internucleotide linkages are modified, and/or one or more of the bases are modified and/or the oligonucleotide is end-protected by an inverted deoxyabasic sugar.

22. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 21 wherein some or all of the
10 sugar units of the antisense oligonucleotide are 2'-deoxyribose and/or wherein the internucleotide phosphodiester linkages are replaced by phosphorothioate linkages.

23. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 16 wherein the antisense
15 oligonucleotide is selected from a group consisting of

5'-CCTCTGCACCTATTGGACCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:2);
5'-GTTTGTGGCCCGTATTGTTCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:3);
5'-GGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACC-3', (SEQ ID NO:4);
5'-CTGCACCTATTGGACCCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:7)
20 5'-CTCTGCACCTATTGGACCCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:8)
5'-GCCTCTGCACCTATTGGACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:9)
5'-CAGCCTCTGCACCTATTGGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:10)
5'-CGTATTGTTCCACCTTCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:11)
5'-CCGTATTGTTCCACCTTCAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:12)
25 5'-CCCGTATTGTTCCACCTTCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:13)
5'-GCCCCGATTGTTCCACCTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:14)
5'-GGCCCCGATTGTTCCACCTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:15)
5'-TTTTCCACTCCCCCATTAA-3' (SEQ ID NO:16)
5'-ATTTTCCACTCCCCCATTAA-3' (SEQ ID NO:17)
30 5'-CATTTTCCACTCCCCCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:18)
5'-CCATTTTCCACTCCCCCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:19)
5'-CCCATTTTCCACTCCCCCAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:20)
5'-CTCAATCAGCGAATACTCCC-3' (SEQ ID NO:21)
5'-GATCTCAATCAGCGAATACT-3' (SEQ ID NO:22)
35 5'-GCCACAATCTCAAAGTCCGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:23)
5'-GGCCACAATCTCAAAGTCCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:24)
5'-GCATTTTGGTGGTTTTTTGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:25)
5'-CCAGCATTTTGGTGGTTTTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:26)
5'-CCACACACACCAGCATTTTG-3' (SEQ ID NO:27)
40 5'-CCACCACCACACACCAGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:28)
5'-CGCAAACACCACCACAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:29)

- 5'-GCCAGCTGACCGCAAACACC -3' (SEQ ID NO:30)
5'-GCCTTTCTGTAGTTGCTGTT -3' (SEQ ID NO:31)
5'-GGAAAGCCTTTCTGTAGTTG -3' (SEQ ID NO:32)
5'-GGCCGAGAGGAAAGCCTTTC -3' (SEQ ID NO:33)
5 5'-CCACTGTTCTTTCTGACCTC -3' (SEQ ID NO:34)
5'-GCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACCT -3' (SEQ ID NO:35)
5'-GGGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGAC -3' (SEQ ID NO:36) and
5'-GGGGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGA -3' (SEQ ID NO:37)
- 10 24. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 23 wherein the sugar units of the antisense oligonucleotides are 2'-deoxyribose and wherein the internucleotide linkages are phosphorothioate linkages.
25. An antisense oligonucleotide having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides,
15 wherein said antisense oligonucleotide is complementary to any sequence of animal NPY Y2 receptor mRNA.
26. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 25 which is 5'-CCT CTG CAC CTA ATG GGC CC -3' (SEQ ID NO:38 corresponding to rat NPY Y2
20 mRNA.
27. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 25 wherein said oligonucleotide contains one or more modifications.
- 25 28. The antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 26 wherein said oligonucleotide contains one or more modifications.
29. A method for investigating the development of a disease or disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels in an experimental animal
30 using an antisense oligonucleotide according to claim 25.
30. The method according to claim 29 wherein said disease or disorder is any form of retinopathy.

31. A method for investigating the development of a disease or disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels in an experimental animal using an antisense oligonucleotide according to any of the claims 26 to 28.
- 5 32. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of an antisense oligonucleotide or a combination of antisense oligonucleotides according to any of the claims 16 to 24 in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
- 10 33. An expression vector including a nucleotide sequence encoding the antisense oligonucleotide according to any of the claims 16 to 18, or claim 23, 25 or 26 in a manner which allows expression of said antisense oligonucleotide in a mammalian cell.
- 15 34. Method for treating or preventing a disease or disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels in a patient, said method comprising administering to said patient an agent affecting the NPY Y2 receptor.
- 20 35. The method according to claim 34 wherein said disease or disorder is any form in which angiogenesis is involved, including neovascular glaucoma, any form of retinopathy, all proliferative retinopathies including proliferative diabetic retinopathy, retinopathy of prematurity, macular degeneration, maculopathy, micro- or macrovascular eye complications caused by diabetes, nephropathy, diabetic nephropathy, rubeosis iridis, hemangiomas, angiofibromas, psoriasis, predisposition to vision loss and blindness, which are consequences of retinopathy, a metabolic
- 25 disease, a cardiovascular disease or a cancerous disease.
- 30 36. The method according to claim 35 wherein the cancerous disease includes tumors and neoplasms, including malignant tumors and neoplasms, blastomas, carcinomas or sarcomas, highly vascular tumors and neoplasms, epidermoid tumors, squamous tumors, head and neck tumors, colorectal tumors, prostate tumors, breast tumors, lung tumors, including small cell and nonsmall cell lung tumors, pancreatic tumors, thyroid tumors, ovarian tumors, and liver tumors, vascularized skin cancers, including squamous cell carcinoma, basal cell carcinoma, and skin cancers that can

be treated by suppressing the growth of neovasculature, Kaposi's sarcoma, CNS neoplasms including neuroblastomas, capillary hemangioblastomas, meningiomas and cerebral metastases, melanoma, gastrointestinal and renal carcinomas and sarcomas, rhabdomyosarcoma, glioblastoma, glioblastoma multiforme, and
5 leiomyosarcoma.

37. The method according to claim 34 wherein said agent is an NPY Y2 receptor antagonist.

10 38. The method according to claim 37 wherein i) said agent also is a Y1-receptor agonist or antagonist, and/or ii) said agent also is a Y5-receptor agonist or antagonist.

39. The method according to claim 34 wherein said agent is an NPY Y2 receptor
15 antisense oligonucleotide complementary to any sequence of the human NPY Y2 receptor mRNA, said oligonucleotide having a length ranging from 7 to 40 nucleotides.

40. The method according to claim 39 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide
20 contains 15 to 25 nucleotides, wherein the antisense oligonucleotide optionally contains one or more chemical modifications of the nucleotides.

41. The method according to claim 40 wherein one or more of the internucleotide linkages are modified, and/or wherein the oligonucleotide contains locked nucleic acid (LNA) modifications and/or wherein the oligonucleotide contains peptide
25 nucleic acid (PNA) modifications.

42. The method according to claim 40 wherein one or more of the sugar units are modified, and/or one or more of the internucleotide linkages are modified, and/or
30 one or more of the bases are modified and/or the oligonucleotide is end-protected by an inverted deoxybasic sugar.

43. The method according to claim 42 wherein some or all of the sugar units of the antisense oligonucleotide are 2'-deoxyribose and/or wherein the internucleotide phosphodiester linkages are replaced by phosphorothioate linkages.

- 5 44. The method according to claim 39 wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is selected from a group consisting of

5'-CCTCTGCACCTATTGGACCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:2);
5'-GTTTGTGGCCCGTATTGTTCC-3', (SEQ ID NO:3);
5'-GGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACC-3', (SEQ ID NO:4);
10 5'-CTGCACCTATTGGACCCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:7)
5'-CTCTGCACCTATTGGACCCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:8)
5'-GCCTCTGCACCTATTGGACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:9)
5'-CAGCCTCTGCACCTATTGGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:10)
5'-CGTATTGTTCCACCTTCATT-3' (SEQ ID NO:11)
15 5'-CCGTATTGTTCCACCTTCAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:12)
5'-CCCGTATTGTTCCACCTTCA-3' (SEQ ID NO:13)
5'-GCCCGTATTGTTCCACCTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:14)
5'-GGCCCGTATTGTTCCACCTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:15)
5'-TTTTCCACTCCCCCATTAAG-3' (SEQ ID NO:16)
20 5'-ATTTTCCACTCCCCCATTA-3' (SEQ ID NO:17)
5'-CATTTTCCACTCCCCCATTA-3' (SEQ ID NO:18)
5'-CCATTTTCCACTCCCCCAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:19)
5'-CCCATTTTCCACTCCCCCAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:20)
5'-CTCAATCAGCGAATACTCCC-3' (SEQ ID NO:21)
25 5'-GATCTCAATCAGCGAATACT-3' (SEQ ID NO:22)
5'-GCCACAATCTCAAAGTCCGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:23)
5'-GGCCACAATCTCAAAGTCCG-3' (SEQ ID NO:24)
5'-GCATTTTGGTGGTTTTTGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:25)
5'-CCAGCATTTTGGTGGTTTTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:26)
30 5'-CCACACACACCAGCATTTTG-3' (SEQ ID NO:27)
5'-CCACCACCACACACCAGC-3' (SEQ ID NO:28)
5'-CGCAAACACCACCACACAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:29)
5'-GCCAGCTGACCGCAAACACC-3' (SEQ ID NO:30)
5'-GCCTTTCTGTAGTTGCTGTT-3' (SEQ ID NO:31)
35 5'-GGAAAGCCTTTCTGTAGTTG-3' (SEQ ID NO:32)
5'-GGCCGAGAGGAAAGCCTTTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:33)
5'-CCACTGTTCTTTCTGACCTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:34)
5'-GCCACTGTTCTTTCTGACCT-3' (SEQ ID NO:35)
5'-GGGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGAC-3' (SEQ ID NO:36)
40 5'-GGGGCCACTGTTCTTTCTGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:37);

a combination of any of two or more of the aforementioned sequences or a combination of anyone of the aforementioned with another antisense

oligonucleotide such as human vascular endothelial growth factor antisense VEGF-AS, 5'-GCCTCGGCTTGTCACATCTGC-3', (SEQ ID NO:41).

45. The method according to claim 44 wherein the sugar units of the antisense
5 oligonucleotides are 2'-deoxyribose and wherein the internucleotide linkages are phosphorothioate linkages.

46. The method according to claim 34 wherein said agent is a selected from a group consisting of
10 - a peptide,
- an antibody raised against the Y2 receptor or raised against an Y2-specific epitope on the NPY peptide,
- an aptamer affecting the Y2 receptor or a Y2-specific NPY-conformation,
- a small interfering RNA molecule, or
15 - a ribozyme.

47. The method according to claim 34 wherein said agent is dipeptidylpeptidase IV inhibitor, or an antisense oligonucleotide, an aptamer or antibody directed to dipeptidylpeptidase IV.
20

48. The method according to claim 34 wherein said agent is a combination of agents having ability to affect the action of NPY Y2 receptor.

1/6

FIG. 1. Human Neuropeptide Y2 mRNA (shown as cDNA); Genbank Ref NM_000910; Orientation 5' → 3'. Three examples of antisense oligonucleotides (AS-1, AS-2 and AS-3) are inserted in bold. Also a known PCR primer is inserted

```

1  tatcctatcc ctatcctagc ttttaacctg agccagagct cactacacag gttcctggct
61 atcgagtctg aatctgcact actcaactta taaactgtct gcagacacct gtttagggaaa
121 ttgctgatca tgggcggcag gatctgaact cgctttacct tcttgtttgg agcacaggga
181 ccgcccagct agaggagcac cagcgcaact cgccccagcc ctgggcgagg gtgcggagga
241 tttgttctcg gtgcaatcct gctggcgctt ttccgggggt ctgcgcggat ccagctcccc
301 atctctgctc ctacacacac aaaagaaaac aactctcgat tggagttgtt ggaattttct
361 cagcccctac gaggcgcggg gattctccag ccccgccctt cctcccgcca acctgaggtc
421 tccttcgctc gcctgccttg ctagggaacc cagtcctcca gccgcagctg ggtctgtccg
481 cccgcctttt gccctgcctt tttccggggg cggatttggg gaagtgcggc tcaagtccag
541 gaggtctgtc ttgcgcgggc cagctctcgc ggaactgggg ggtagagagc aaagggagag
601 attcgtggaa gggaaggagg gtaggggtgg cgcaaacgcc cagagtatca aacttggggg
661 tggcacagta ggtgacagca gcagctgcag gtggtggctg gggaccgcgc agggggcgcc
721 cctctgggta gggctctggc gagcgggctt gcaagcccgg gaggcggctg agagaccctg
781 gacactgttc ctgctccctc gccacacaaa ctctcctccc agtcccctcc cctgcaggac
841 catcgcccgc agcctctgca cctgttttct tgtgtttaag ggtgggggtt gccccctcc
901 ccacgctccc atctctgata ctcccacctt caccgcacca ccccgcgagt gagtgcgggtg
961 cccaggcgcg cttggcctga gaggtcggca gcagaccgcg cagcgccaac cgcccagccg
1021 ctctgactgc tccggctgcc cgcccgcgcg gcgcgggctg tcttgacccc taggagggga
1081 cggaaaccgga cttgcctttg ggcaccttcc agggccctct ccaggtcggc tggctaatac
1141 tcggacagac ggactgcaca catcttgttt ccgcgtctcc gcaaaaacgc gaggtccagg
1201 tcagttgtag actcttgtag tggttgcagg ccaagtggac ctgtactgaa aatgggtcca
AS-1 3'-cccagggt
1261 ataggtgcag aggtgatga gaaccagaca gtggaagaaa tgaaggtgga acaatacggg
tatccacgta tcc-5' 3'-cct tgttatgccc
AS-2 1321 ccacaaacaa ctctagagg tgaactggtc cctgaccctg agccagagct tatagatagt
gggtgtttg-5'
1381 accaagctga ttgaggtaca agttgttctc atattggcct actgtcccat catcttgctt
1441 ggggtaattg gcaactcctt ggtgatccat gtggtgatca aattcaagag catgcgcaca
1501 gtaaccaact ttttcattgc caatctggct gtggcagatc ttttggtgaa cactctgtgt
1561 ctaccgttca ctcttaccta taccttaatg ggggagtgga aaatgggtcc tgtcctgtgc
1621 cacctgggtc cctatgcca gggcctggca gtacaagtat ccacaatcac cttgacagta
1681 attgccctgg accggcacag gtgcacgtc taccacctag agagcaagat ctccaagcga
1741 atcagcttcc tgattattgg cttggcctgg ggcacagtg cctgctggc aagtcccctg
1801 gccatcttcc gggagtattc gctgattgag atcatcccgc actttgagat tgtggcctgt
1861 actgaaaagt ggctggcga ggagaagagc atctatggca ctgtctatag tctttcttcc
1921 ttgttgatct tgtatgtttt gcctctgggc attatatcat ttctctacac tcgcatttgg
1981 agtaaatgta agaaccatgt cagtcctgga gctgcaaatg accactacca tcagcgaagg
2041 caaaaaacca ccaaaatgct ggtgtgtgtg gtggtggtgt ttgcggtcag ctggctgcct
2101 ctccatgcct tccagcttgc cgttgacatt gacagccagg tcttgacct gaaggagtag
↑
in the publication J. Tajti et al. disclosed sequence
2161 aaactcatct tcacagtgtt ccacatcatc gccatgtgct ccacttttgc caatcccctt
2221 ctctatggct ggatgaacag caactacaga aaggctttcc tctcgccctt ccgctgtgag
2281 cagcggtttg atgccattca ctctgaggtg tccgtgacat tcaaggctaa aaagaacctg
2341 gaggtcagaa agaacagtgg cccaatgac tctttcacag aggtaccaa tgtctaagga
AS-3 3'-ccagtcctt tottgtcaac gg-5'
2401 agctgtggtg tgaaaatgta tggatgaatt ctgaccagag ctatgaatct ggttgatggc
2461 ggctcacaag tgaaaactga tttcccattt taaagaagaa gtgatctaa atggaagcat
2521 ctgctgttta attcctggaa aactggctgg gcagagcctg tgtgaaaata ctggaattca
2581 aagataaggc aacaaaatgg tttacttaac agttggttgg gtagtaggtt gcatgtgag
2641 taaaagcaga gagaagtact tttgattatt ttcctggagt gaagaaaact tgaacaagaa
2701 attggtatta tcaaagcatt gctgagagac ggtgggaaaa taagttgact ttcaaatcac

```

2/6

FIG. 1, cont.

```
2761 gttaggacct ggattgagga ggtgtgcagt tcgctgctcc ctgcttggtt tatgaaaaca
2821 ccactgaaca gaaatttctc cagggagcca caggctctcc ttcacgcgat tttgattttt
2881 ttgttcattc tctagacaaa atccatcagg gaatgctgca ggaaacgatt gccaaactata
2941 cgaatggctt cgaggagata aactgaaatt tgctatataa ttaatatattt ggcagatgat
3001 aggggaactc ctcaacactc agtgggcca ttgttcttaa aaccaattgc acgtttggtg
3061 aaagtttctt caactctgaa tcaaaagctg aaattctcag aattacagga aatgcaaacc
3121 atcatttaat ttctaatttc aagttacatc cgctttatgg agatactatt tagataacaa
3181 gaatacaact tgatactttt attgttatac ctttttgaac atgtatgatt tctgttggtt
3241 tttaacctttt taaacagata aatatttttt ttccatttta gagtagcgga atctaactctt
3301 aatctaactt tttaggagta tatttcagag aaattccaag cacaccagta tgaccatcct
3361 tatttcagaa atgacaatgc atagaggaaa agtaatatgt gcaaagcctc cgaagaggat
3421 ggttaagtaa agacttaggt taccagtatc aggctttcgt ttttgtatgt aggtagctct
3481 actgcctcct cttaaaacca acaaaggaaa gagagactgg ctgcaaactt ttagaaggaa
3541 tggcttcgaa tagggttcct gggaggaatc ccgaggaaat agacgctgct gctctgctga
3601 ttgtctccac tatcctgttt tgctcctacc cactaatcca gcctgggagg ctctgggcat
3661 tagcggaagg cttcaccaca aggagacagg agcgagtatt ccataggcat gcgctcctag
3721 tggcacgagt ggcttgggtc aggatcaaag agtgaaggat tcggaagtca gctatctgga
3781 gagagagaga gattgtgttt tattcgtgtc ccatagcttt cctatcctat ccctatccta
3841 gcttttaacc tgagccagag ctcaactacac aggttcctgg ctatcgagtc tgaatctgca
3901 ctactcaact tataaactgt ctgcagacac ctgttaggga aattgctgat catgggcggc
3961 aggatctgaa ctgcgtttac cttcttgttt ggagcacagg gaccgcccag ctagaggagc
4021 accagcgcac tgcgcccag cctgggcga gggcgaggag gatttgttct cgggtgcaatc
4081 ctgctggcgc ttttcggggg ttctgcgcgg atccagctcc ccatctctgc tcctacacac
4141 acaaaagaaa acaactctcg attggaagtt gtggaatttt ctcagcccct acgaggcgcg
4201 gggattctcc agccccggcc ctctcccgcc cagcctgagg tctccttcgc tcgcctgcct
4261 tgctagggac cgcagtcctc cagccgcagc tgggtctgtc cgcctcgccct ttgcctcgc
4321 cttttcccgg ggcggatttg gtgaagtcgg cctcaagtcc aggaggtctg tcttcgcccg
4381 gccagctctc
```

3/6

Rat Neuropeptide Y2 receptor mRNA (shown as cDNA), coding region.

```
1 atgggcccatt taggtgcaga ggcagatgag aatcaaactg tagaagtgaa agtggaaactc
61 tatgggtcgg ggcccaccac tcctagaggt gagttgcccc ctgatccaga gccggagctc
121 atagacagca ccaaactggg tgaggtgcag gtggtcctta tactggccta ttgttccatc
181 atcttgctgg gcgtagttgg caactctctg gtaatccatg tggatgatcaa attcaagagc
241 atgcgcacag taaccaactt ttttattgcc aacctggctg tggcggatct tttggtgaac
301 accctgtgcc tgccattcac tcttacctat accttgatgg gggagtggaa aatgggtcca
361 gttttgtgcc atttggtgcc ctatgccag ggtctggcag tacaagtgtc cacaataact
421 ttgacagtca ttgctttgga ccgacatcgt tgcattgtct accacctgga gagcaagatc
481 tccaagcaaa tcagcttcct gattattggc ctggcgtggg gtgtcagcgc tctgctggca
541 agtccccttg ccatcttccg ggagtactca ctgattgaga ttattcctga ctttgagatt
601 gtagcctgta ctgagaaatg gcccggggag gagaagagtg tgtacggtac agtctacagc
661 ctttccaccc tgctaatacct ctacgttttg cctctgggca tcatatcttt ctccacacc
721 cggatctgga gtaagctaaa gaaccacggt agtcctggag ctgcaagtga ccattaccat
781 cagcgaaggc acaaacgac caaaatgctc gtgtgcgtgg tagtggtgtt tgcagtcagc
841 tggctgcccc tccatgcctt ccaacttgct gtggacatcg acagccatgt cctggacctg
901 aaggagtaca aactcatctt caccgtgttc cacattattg cgatgtgctc caccttcgcc
961 aacccccttc tctatggctg gatgaacagc aactacagaa aagctttcct ctcagccttc
1021 cgctgtgagc agaggttgga tgccattcac tcggaggtgt ccatgacctt caaggctaaa
1081 aagaacctgg aagtcaaaaa gaacaatggc ctactgact ctttttcaga gccaccaac
1141 gtgtaag
```

FIG. 2

4/6

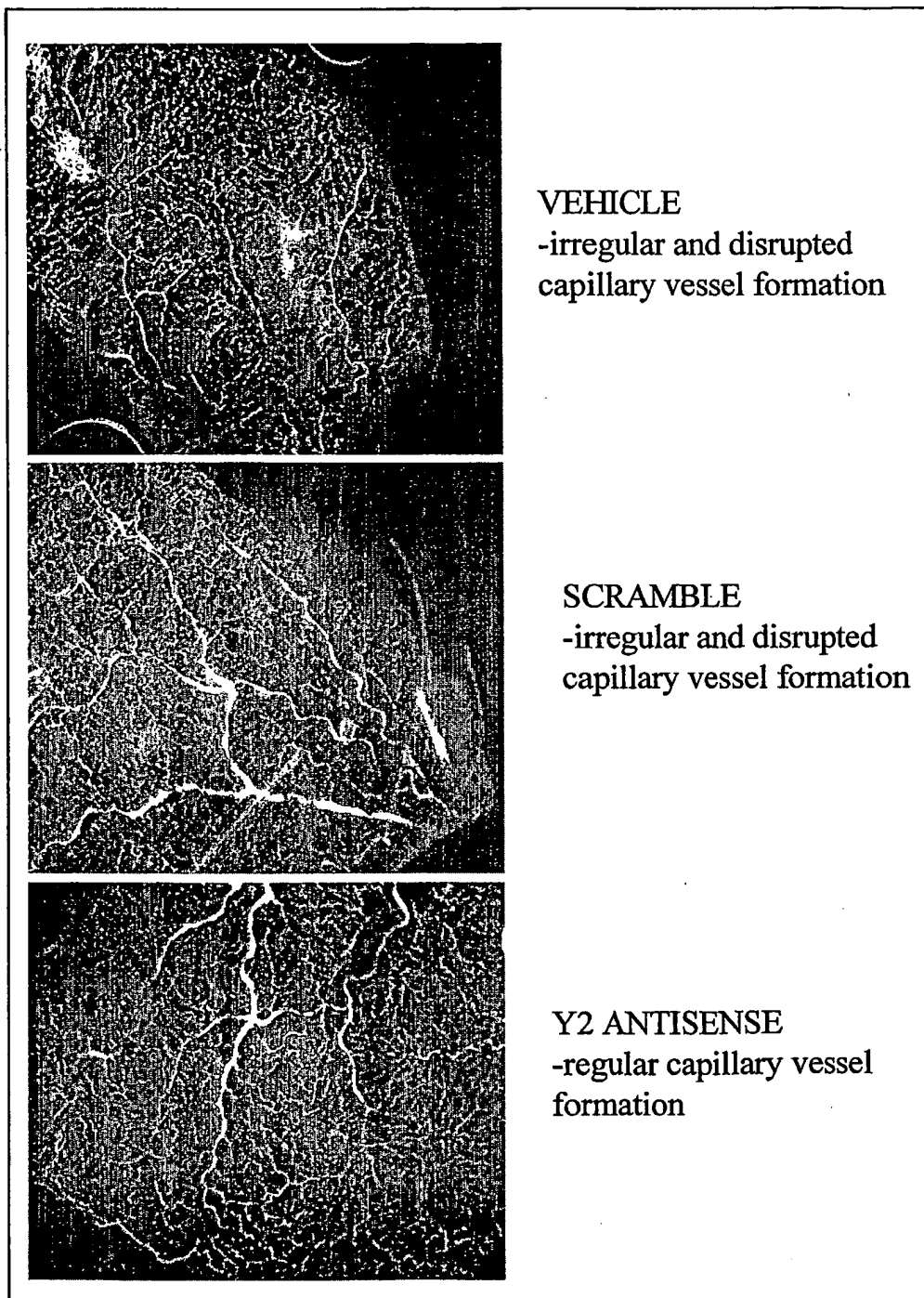
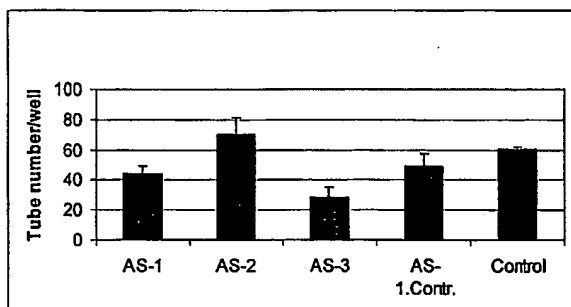
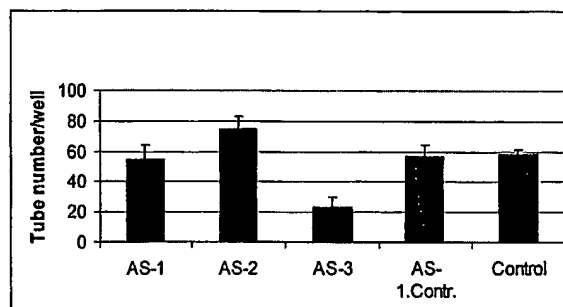


FIG. 3

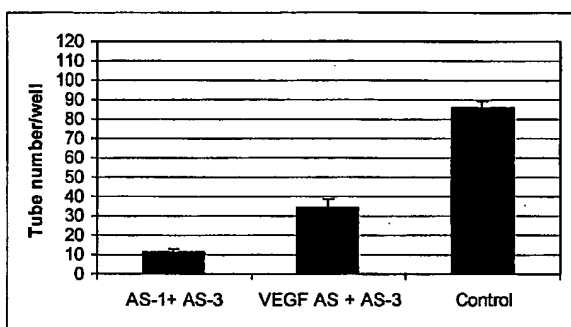
5/6



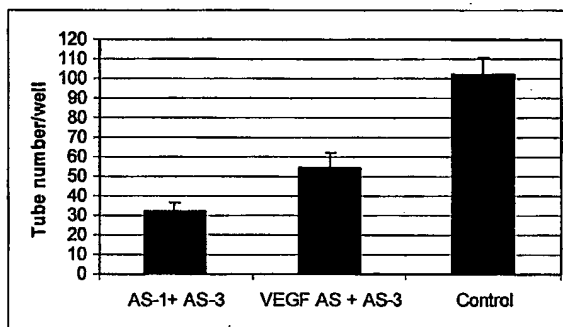
4a



4b



4c



4d

FIG. 4

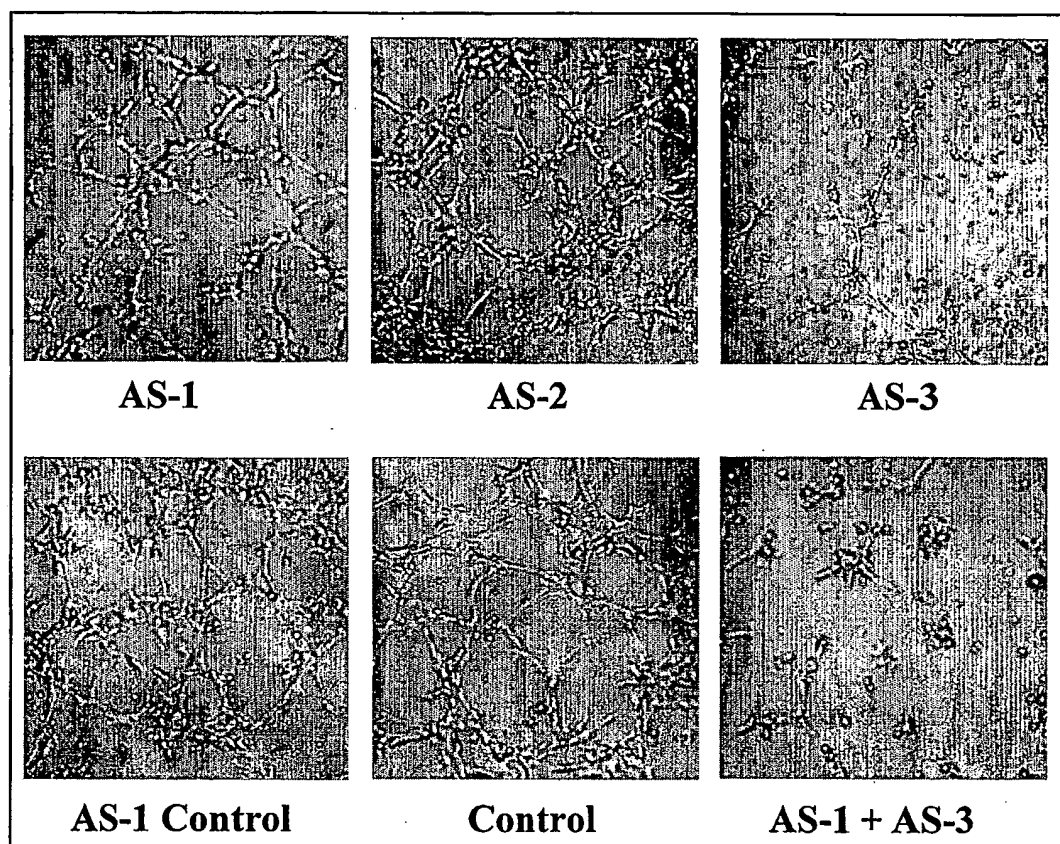


FIG. 5

sequencelisting.txt
SEQUENCE LISTING

<110> Hormos Medical Corporation

<120> Method for Prevention and Treatment of Diseases or Disorders Related to
Excessive Formation of Vascular Tissue or Blood Vessels

<130> NPY-retino/HP1287

<150> US 60/_____

<151> 2002-06-27

<160> 42

<170> PatentIn version 3.0

<210> 1

<211> 4390

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<222> (1252)..(1254)

<223> start codon

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<222> (2395)..(2397)

<223> stop codon

<400> 1
tattctatcc ctatcctagc ttttaacctg agccagagct cactacacag gttcctggct 60
atcgagtctg aatctgcact actcaactta taaactgtct gcagacacct gttagggaaa 120
ttgctgatca tgggcggcag gatctgaact cgctttacct tcttgtttgg agcacagga 180

sequencelisting.txt

ccgcccagct agaggagcac cagcgccactg cgccccagcc ctgggcgagg gtgcggagga	240
tttgttctcg gtgcaatcct gctggcgctt ttccgggggt ctgcgcggat ccagctcccc	300
atctctgctc ctacacacac aaaagaaaac aactctcgat tggaagttgt ggaattttct	360
cagcccctac gaggcgcggg gattctccag ccccgccct cctcccgcca gcctgaggtc	420
tccttcgctc gcctgccttg ctagggaccg cagtccctca gccgcagctg ggtctgtccg	480
ccccgccttt gccctgcctt tttccgggg cggaatttgg gaagtcggcc tcaagtccag	540
gaggtctgtc ttgcggggc cagctctcgc ggaactgggg ggtagagagc aaagggagag	600
attcgtggaa gggaagggag gtaggggtgg cgcaaacgcc cagagtatca aacttggggg	660
tggcacagta ggtgacagca gcagctgcag gtggtggctg gggaccgcg agggggcgcc	720
cctctgggta gggctctggct gagcgggctt gcaagcccgg gaggcggctg agagaccctg	780
gacactgttc ctgctccctc gccacaaaa cttctcctcc agtccctcc cctgcaggac	840
catcgccgc agcctctgca cctgttttct tgtgtttaag ggtggggttt gccccctcc	900
ccagctccc atctctgatc ctcccacctt caccgcccc ccccgcgagt gagtgcggtg	960
cccaggcgcg cttggcctga gaggtcggca gcagaccgg cagcgccaac cgcccagccg	1020
ctctgactgc tccggctgcc cgcccgcgcg gcgcgggctg tcctggacct taggagggga	1080
cggaaccgga cttgcctttg ggcaccttc agggccctct ccaggtcggc tggctaataca	1140
tcggacagac ggactgcaca catcttgttt ccgcgtctcc gcaaaaacgc gaggtccagg	1200
tcagttgtag actcttgtgc tggttgcagg ccaagtggac ctgtactgaa aatgggtcca	1260
ataggtgcag aggctgatga gaaccagaca gtggaagaaa tgaaggtgga acaatacggg	1320
ccacaaacaa ctcttagagg tgaactggct cctgaccctg agccagagct tatagatagt	1380
accaagctga ttgaggtaca agttgttctc atattggcct actgctccat catcttgctt	1440
ggggtaatg gcaactcctt ggtgatccat gtggtgatca aattcaagag catgcgcaca	1500
gtaaccaact ttttcattgc caatctggct gtggcagatc ttttggtgaa cactctgtgt	1560
ctaccgttca ctcttaccta taccttaatg ggggagtgga aaatgggtcc tgtcctgtgc	1620
cacctggtgc cctatgcca gggcctggca gtacaagtat ccacaatcac cttgacagta	1680
attgccctgg accggcacag gtgcatcgtc taccacctag agagcaagat ctccaagcga	1740
atcagcttcc tgattattgg cttggcctgg ggcacagtg ccctgctggc aagtcccctg	1800
gccatcttcc gggagtattc gctgattgag atcatcccgg actttgagat tgtggcctgt	1860
actgaaaagt ggcctggcga ggagaagagc atctatggca ctgtctatag tctttcttcc	1920
ttgttgatct tgtatgtttt gcctctgggc attatatcat tttctacac tcgcatttgg	1980
agtaaattga agaaccatgt cagtcctgga gctgcaaatg accactacca tcagcgaagg	2040
caaaaaacca ccaaatgctt ggtgtgtgtg gtgggtgtgt ttgcggtcag ctggctgcct	2100
ctccatgcct tccagcttgc cgttgacatt gacagccagg tcctggacct gaaggagtac	2160
aaactcatct tcacagtgtt ccacatcatc gccatgtgct ccacttttgc caatcccctt	2220

sequencelisting.txt

ctctatggct ggatgaacag caactacaga aaggctttcc tctcggcctt ccgctgtgag	2280
cagcggtttg atgccattca ctctgaggtg tccgtgacat tcaaggctaa aaagaacctg	2340
gaggtcagaa agaacagtgg cccaatgac tctttcacag aggctaccaa tgtctaagga	2400
agctgtggtg tgaaaatgta tggatgaatt ctgaccagag ctatgaatct ggttgatggc	2460
ggctcacaag tgaaaactga tttcccatTT taaagaagaa gtggatctaa atggaagcat	2520
ctgtgtttta attcctggaa aactggctgg gcagagcctg tgtgaaaata ctggaattca	2580
aagataaggc aacaaaatgg tttacttaac agttggttgg gtagtaggtt gcattatgag	2640
taaaagcaga gagaagtact tttgattatt ttcctggagt gaagaaaact tgaacaagaa	2700
attggtatta tcaaagcatt gctgagagac ggtgggaaaa taagttgact ttcaaatac	2760
gttaggacct ggattgagga ggtgtgcagt tCGctgctcc ctgcttggt tatgaaaaca	2820
ccactgaaca gaaatttctc caggagacca caggctctcc ttcacgcat tttgattttt	2880
ttgttcattc tctagacaaa atccatcagg gaatgctgca ggaaacgatt gccaaactata	2940
cgaatggctt cgaggagata aactgaaatt tgctatataa ttaatatTTT ggcagatgat	3000
aggggaactc ctcaacactc agtgggcca ttgttcttaa aaccaattgc acgtttggtg	3060
aaagtTTTt caactctgaa tcaaaagctg aaattctcag aattacagga aatgcaaacc	3120
atcatttaat ttctaatttc aagttacatc cgctttatgg agatactatt tagataacaa	3180
gaatacaact tgatactttt attgttatac ctttttgaac atgtatgatt tctgttgTTa	3240
tttacctttt taaacagata aatatttttt tttcatttta gagtagcgga atctaattctt	3300
aatctaattct tttaggagta tatttcagag aaattccaag cacaccagta tgaccatcct	3360
tatttcagaa atgacaatgc atagagggaa agtaatatgt gcaaagcctc cgaagaggat	3420
ggttaagtaa agacttaggt taccagtatc aggctttcgt ttttgtatgt aggtagctct	3480
actgcctcct cttaaaacca acaaaggaaa gagagactgg ctgcaaactt ttagaaggaa	3540
tggcttcgaa tagggttcct gggaggaatc ccgaggaaat agacgctgct gctctgctga	3600
ttgtctccac tatcctgttt tgctcctacc cactaatcca gcctgggagg ctctgggcat	3660
tagcgggaagg cttcaccaca aggagacagg agcgagtatt ccataggcat gcgctcctag	3720
tggcacgagt ggcttgggtc aggatcaaag agtgaaggat tcggaagtca gctatctgga	3780
gagagagaga gatttgtttt tattcgtgtc ccatagcttt cctatcctat ccctatccta	3840
gcttttaacc tgagccagag ctactacac aggttcctgg ctatcgagtc tgaatctgca	3900
ctactcaact tataaactgt ctgcagacac ctgttaggga aattgctgat catgggcggc	3960
aggatctgaa ctcgctttac cttcttgttt ggagcacagg gaccgcccag ctagaggagc	4020
accagcgcac tgcgccccag ccctgggcga gggTgcggag gatttgttct cggTgcaatc	4080
ctgctggcgc ttttccgggg ttctgcgcgg atccagctcc ccatctctgc tcctacacac	4140
acaaaagaaa acaactctcg attggaagtt gtggaatttt ctcagcccct acgaggcgcg	4200
gggattctcc agccccggcc ctctcccgC cagcctgagg tctccttcgc tcgcctgcct	4260

sequencelisting.txt

tgctagggac cgcagtcct cagccgcagc tgggtctgtc cgccccgcct ttgccctcgc 4320
cttttcccgg ggcggatttg gtgaagtcgg cctcaagtcc aggaggctctg tcttcgccgg 4380
gccagctctc 4390

<210> 2
<211> 20
<212> DNA
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 2
cctctgcacc tattggaccc 20

<210> 3
<211> 21
<212> DNA
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 3
gtttgtggcc cgtattgttc c 21

<210> 4
<211> 20
<212> DNA
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 4
ggccactgtt ctttctgacc 20

<210> 5
<211> 19
<212> DNA
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 5
gttgacattg acagccagg 19

<210> 6
<211> 1147
<212> DNA

sequencelisting.txt

<213> Rattus sp.

<400> 6
 atggggcccat taggtgcaga ggcagatgag aatcaaactg tagaagtgaa agtggaactc 60
 tatgggtcgg gggccaccac tcctagaggt gagttgcccc ctgatccaga gccggagctc 120
 atagacagca ccaaactggt tgaggtgcag gtggtcctta tactggccta ttgttccatc 180
 atcttgctgg gcgtagttgg caactctctg gtaatccatg tggatgacaa attcaagagc 240
 atgcgcacag taaccaactt ttttattgcc aacctggctg tggcggatct tttggtgaac 300
 acctgtgcc tgccattcac tcttacctat acctgatgg gggagtggaa aatgggtcca 360
 gttttgtgcc atttggtgcc ctatgcccag ggtctggcag tacaagtgtc cacaataact 420
 ttgacagtca ttgctttgga ccgacatcgt tgcattgtct accacctgga gagcaagatc 480
 tccaagcaaa tcagcttcct gattattggc ctggcgtggg gtgtcagcgc tctgctggca 540
 agtccccttg ccatcttcg ggagtactca ctgattgaga ttattcctga ctttgagatt 600
 gtagcctgta ctgagaaatg gcccggggag gagaagagtg tgtacggtac agtctacagc 660
 ctttccaccc tgctaatect ctacgttttg cctctgggca tcatatcttt ctctacacc 720
 cggatctgga gtaagctaaa gaaccacgtt agtcctggag ctgcaagtga ccattaccat 780
 cagcgaaggc acaaaacgac caaatgctc gtgtgctgg tagtggtgtt tgcagtcagc 840
 tggctgcccc tccatgcctt ccaacttgct gtggacatcg acagccatgt cctggacctg 900
 aaggagtaca aactcatctt caccgtgttc cacattattg cgatgtgctc caccttcgcc 960
 aacccccctt tctatggctg gatgaacagc aactacagaa aagctttcct ctcagccttc 1020
 cgctgtgagc agaggttgga tgccattcac tcggaggtgt ccatgacctt caaggctaaa 1080
 aagaacctgg aagtcaaaaa gaacaatggc ctcactgact ctttttcaga ggccaccaac 1140
 gtgtaag 1147

<210> 7

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 7
 ctgcacctat tggacccatt 20

<210> 8

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

sequencelisting.txt

<400> 8
ctctgcacct attggaccca 20

<210> 9
<211> 20
<212> DNA
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 9
gcctctgcac ctattggacc 20

<210> 10
<211> 20
<212> DNA
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 10
cagcctctgc acctattgga 20

<210> 11
<211> 20
<212> DNA
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 11
cgtattgttc caccttcatt 20

<210> 12
<211> 20
<212> DNA
<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 12
ccgtattggt ccaccttcatt 20

<210> 13
<211> 20
<212> DNA

sequencelisting.txt

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 13
cccgtattgt tccaccttca 20

<210> 14

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 14
gcccgtattg ttccaccttc 20

<210> 15

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 15
ggcccgtatt gttccacctt 20

<210> 16

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 16
ttttccactc ccccatthaag 20

<210> 17

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 17
attttccact cccccattaa 20

<210> 18

<211> 20

sequencelisting.txt

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 18

cattttccac tccccatta

20

<210> 19

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 19

ccattttcca ctccccatt

20

<210> 20

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 20

cccattttcc actccccat

20

<210> 21

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 21

ctcaatcagc gaatactccc

20

<210> 22

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 22

gatctcaatc agcgaatact

20

<210> 23

sequencelisting.txt

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 23

gccacaatct caaagtccgg

20

<210> 24

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 24

ggccacaatc tcaaagtccg

20

<210> 25

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 25

gcattttggt ggttttttgc

20

<210> 26

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 26

ccagcatttt ggtggttttt

20

<210> 27

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 27

ccacacacac cagcattttg

20

sequencelisting.txt

<210> 28

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 28

ccaccaccac acacaccagc

20

<210> 29

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 29

cgcaaacc accaccacac

20

<210> 30

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 30

gccagctgac cgcaaacc

20

<210> 31

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 31

gcctttctgt agttgctgtt

20

<210> 32

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 32

sequencelisting.txt

ggaaagcctt tctgtagttg

20

<210> 33

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 33

ggccgagagg aaagcctttc

20

<210> 34

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 34

ccactgttct ttctgacctc

20

<210> 35

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 35

gccactgttc tttctgacct

20

<210> 36

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 36

gggccactgt tctttctgac

20

<210> 37

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

sequencelisting.txt

<400> 37
ggggccactg ttctttctga

20

<210> 38

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Rattus sp.

<400> 38
cctctgcacc taatgggccc

20

<210> 39

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Rattus sp.

<400> 39
ccatggtaat ccgccgctcc

20

<210> 40

<211> 20

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 40
cccaggttat ccacgtctcc

20

<210> 41

<211> 21

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

<400> 41
gcctcggctt gtcacatctg c

21

<210> 42

<211> 3747

<212> DNA

<213> Homo sapiens

sequencelisting.txt

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<222> (496)..(498)

<223> start codon

<220>

<221> misc_feature

<222> (1639)..(1641)

<223> stop codon

<400> 42

gaattcggcc gctgagagac cctggacact gttcctgctc cctcgccacc aaaacttctc	60
ctccagtgccc ctcccctgca ggaccatcgc ccgcagcctc tgcacctgtt ttcttggtgtt	120
taaggggtggg gtttgccccc ctcccacgc tcccatctct gatcctccca ccttcacccg	180
cccaccccg cagtgagtg cgtgcccagg cgcgcttgcc ctgagaggtc ggcagcagac	240
ccggcagcgc caaccgccc gccgctctga ctgctccggc tgcccggccg cgcggcgccg	300
gctgtcctgg accctaggag gggacggaac cggacttgcc tttgggcacc ttccagggcc	360
ctctccaggt cggctggcta atcatcggac agacggactg cacacatctt gtttccgcgt	420
ctccgcaaaa acgcgaggtc caggctcagtt gtagactctt gtgctgggtg caggccaagt	480
ggacctgtac tgaaaaatggg tccaataggc gcagaggctg atgagaacca gacagtggaa	540
gaaatgaagg tggaacaata cgggccacaa acaactccta gaggtgaact ggtccctgac	600
cctgagccag agcttataga tagtaccaag ctgattgagg tacaagttgt tctcatattg	660
gcctactgct ccatcatctt gcttggggta attggcaact ccttggtgat ccatgtgggtg	720
atcaaattca agagcatgcg cacagtaacc aactttttca ttgccaatct ggctgtggca	780
gatcttttgg tgaacactct gtgtctaccg ttcactctta cctatacctt aatgggggag	840
tggaatatgg gtcctgtcct gtgccacctg gtgccctatg cccagggcct ggcagtacaa	900
gtatccacaa tcacctgac agtaattgcc ctggaccggc acagggtgat cgtctaccac	960
ctagagagca agatctccaa gcgaatcagc ttcttgatta ttggcttggc ctggggcatc	1020
agtgccttgc tggcaagtcc cctggccatc ttccgggagt attcgctgat tgagatcatt	1080
ccggactttg agattgtggc ctgtactgaa aagtggcctg gcgaggagaa gagcatctat	1140
ggcactgtct atagtctttc ttccctgttg atcttgatg ttttgctctt gggcattata	1200
tcattttcct acactcgcac ttggagtaaa ttgaagaacc atgtcagtc tggagctgca	1260
aatgaccact accatcagcg aaggcaaaaa accaccaaaa tgctgggtgtg tgtgggtggg	1320

sequencelisting.txt

gtgtttgctg tcagctggct gcctctccat gccttccagc ttgccgttga cattgacagc 1380
caggctcctg accgaagga gtacaaactc atcttcacag tgttccacat tatcgccatg 1440
tgctccactt ttgccaatcc ctttctctat ggctggatga acagcaacta cagaaaggct 1500
ttcctctcgg ctttccgctg tgagcagcgg ttggatgcca ttactctga ggtgtccgtg 1560
acattcaagg ctaaaaagaa cctggagggtc agaaagaaca gtggcccaa tgactctttc 1620
acagaggcta ccaatgtcta aggaagctgt ggtgtgaaaa tgtatggatg aattctgacc 1680
agagctatga atctggttga tggcggctca caagtgaaca ctgatttccc attttaaaga 1740
agaagtggat cttaatggaa gcatctgctg ttttaattcct ggaaaactgg ctgggcagag 1800
cctgtgtgaa aatactggaa ttcaaagata aggcaacaaa atggtttact taacagttgg 1860
ttgggtagta ggttgcatta tgagtaaaag cagagagaag tacttttgat tattttcctg 1920
gagtgaagaa aacttgaaca agaaattggt attatcaaag cattgtctgag agacgggtggg 1980
aaaataagtt gactttcaaa tcacgttagg acctggattg aggagggtgtg cagttcgctg 2040
ctcctgctt ggcttatgaa aacaccactg aacagaaatt tctccaggga gccacaggct 2100
ctccttcacg gcattttgat tttttgttc attctctaga caaatccat cagggaatgc 2160
tgcaggaaac gattgccaac tatacgaatg gcttcgagga gataaactga aatttgctat 2220
ataattaata ttttggcaga tgatagggga actcctcaac actcagtggg ccaattgttc 2280
ttaaaccaca ttgcacgttt ggtgaaagtt tcttcaactc tgaatcaaaa gctgaaattc 2340
tcagaattac aggaatgca aaccatcatt taatttctaa tttcaagtta catccgcttt 2400
atggagatac tatttagata acaagaatac aacttgatac ttttattgtt ataccttttt 2460
gaacatgtat gatttctgtt gttattccta ttggagctaa gtttgtctac actaaaattt 2520
aaatcagact agagaataat ttttgtggca tgttgaaca tttcacagta ttacaagct 2580
atttttgcac aggtacatag ctctcatgta tttaaagaac actgcagtgt tattttcttt 2640
gaaattcatc ctccacggac ccattcatac taaataaaac aatgtaatta cattaataatg 2700
gacctatctg taagaggtag taaaaacact ggattcattt catcttgcaa atgttgtatt 2760
tcaaaccagt ttcacataag ttatttgtct tcttttcaaa ataattagct atatttttat 2820
ataatatgaa tatatacata aaaattgttt ctataaattg tagaacatag atgctacagt 2880
attttttatt taattatatt atgaataaaa ttgttatttc aatagtaccc aaccaaagat 2940
gcttaaaaac cttctatggt cataaaaaat aacaactgag atgttaaaat agtcatacgt 3000
ctttagatgc tattaaagtt tcattagtca tatttttgta aatatgacag aatttgtgaa 3060
tatattttta aagcaaaaaa cttcaacatg catatgatat atagttacaa cattaatttt 3120
atgaactgga gagctttact ttgtggatat atttaaaatt catattatag ctctatttaa 3180
attccttcca tgatagatat aaaggactgg tttttaagtg cactgcactt ctggaatact 3240
gaaaaagaat gaaaacaata tgtagatta ggtgtaagac ttttaagaagc gaacaaaag 3300
taatgtatat ctgtaatata taatcaaag attcattttt ctgttagact aggcaaattg 3360

sequencelisting.txt

ttcaaaaata acctttttgt cttttaagta gcagtcactt tgcttaagat gctaatagaa	3420
aactgtgggt aaagatttac cctccctctt ggtgaattat tacactgtaa gaaatgtata	3480
tgctactgtg ttacatgttg tattagtaaa ttattagaat ccaattaatg attcaattaa	3540
catatatctt atccaattca ttatgtcaat tcattaataa aatacctttt atgtagaggc	3600
tttatgttgc aattaaaaag ttgggaaaat gaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa	3660
aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa	3720
aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaaaaa aaaaaaa	3747

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FI 03/00487

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: A61K 48/00, A61K 38/00, A61K 39/395, A61K 31/00, A61P 9/10, C12N 15/11
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC7: A61K, C12N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA, PAJ, CHEM. ABS DATA, MEDLINE, BIOSIS, EMBASE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	Circ Res, Volume 83, 1998, Zofia Zukowska-Grojec et al: "Neuropeptide Y. A Novel Angiogenic Factor From the Sympathetic Nerves and Endothelium", page 187 - page 195, the whole document --	1-15, 29-31, 34-48
X	US 5989834 A (CHRISTOPHE GERALD ET AL), 23 November 1999 (23.11.99), column 15, lines 55-62; column 17, line 1 - column 18, line 40; column 19, lines 44-56; column 46, table 7; column 41, lines 32-42; column 35, lines 31-37 --	16-28, 32-33
Y	--	1-4, 6-15, 29-31, 34-37, 39-48

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

2 October 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

06-10-2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Swedish Patent Office
Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM
Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86

Authorized officer

Ida Christensen/EÖ
Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FI 03/00487

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Molecular Brain Research, Volume 46, 1997, Eric L. Gustafson et al: "Distribution of the neuropeptide Y Y2 receptor mRNA in rat central nervous system", page 223 - page 235, abstract; page 226, column 1, paragraph 2 --	16-28,32
Y	The Journal of Biological Chemistry, Volume 277, no. 13, 2002, Daniela Proske et al: "A Y2 Receptor Mimetic Aptamer Directed against Neuropeptide Y", page 11416 - page 11422, abstract; page 11421, column 2, last paragraph --	13,46
Y	Peptides, Volume 22, 2001, Guilio Gherzi et al: "Critical role of dipeptidyl peptidase IV in neuropeptide Y-mediated endothelial cell migration in response to wounding", page 453 - page 458, whole document --	5,14,38,47
A	Regulatory Peptides, Volume 67, 1996, D. Grandt et al: "Neuropeptide Y 3-36 is an endogenous ligand selective for Y2 receptors", page 33 - page 37, page 36, column 2 --	14,47
A	DIABETES, Volume 51, April 2002, J.A. Pospisilik et al: "Long-Term Treatment With the Dipeptidyl Peptidase IV Inhibitor P32/98 Causes Sustained Improvements in Glucose Tolerance, Insulin Sensitivity, Hyperinsulinemia, and Beta-Cell Glucose Responsiveness in VDF (fa/fa) Zucker Rats", page 943 - page 950 --	14,47
A	Biochemical Pharmacology, Vol. 54, 1997, Ingrid De Meester et al: "In Vivo Inhibition of Dipeptidyl Peptidase IV Activity by Pro-Pro-diphenyl-phosphonate (Prodipine)", page 173 - page 179, abstract; page 178, column 1, last paragraph --	14,47

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.,

PCT/FI 03/00487

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 0204518 A2 (BAYER CORPORATION), 17 January 2002 (17.01.02), page 4, lines 16-20; page 30, lines 19-27; page 32, lines 6-28; page 51, lines 19-20; page 52, lines 14-15; page 69, lines 20-21 --	1-48
A	WO 9717440 A1 (GARVAN INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH), 15 May 1997 (15.05.97), page 13, lines 8-14; page 7, lines 25-26; page 5, lines 11-16 --	1-48
A	Exp Clin Endocrinol Diabetes, Volume 108, 2000, L. Niskanen et al: "Leucine 7 to proline 7 polymorphism in the neuropeptide y gene is associated with retinopathy in Type 2 diabetes", page 235 - page 236, page 236, the discussion --	1-48
A	Neuroscience, Volume 98, no. 4, 2000, R.T.F. Cheung et al: "Neuropeptide Y-Y1 receptor antisense oligodeoxynucleotide increases the infarct volume after middle cerebral artery occlusion in rats", page 771 - page 777, abstract --	1-48
A	Regulatory Peptides, Volume 75-76, 1998, Zofia Zukowska-Grojec et al: "Mechanisms of vascular growth-promoting effects of neuropeptide Y: role of its inducible receptors", page 231 - page 238 -- -----	1-48

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/FI03/00487

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☒ Claims Nos.: **1-5, 13, 15, 34, 38, 46, 48 (partially)**
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

see next sheet

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

Present claims 1-5, 13, 15, 34-38, 46 and 48 relate to the use of an extremely large number of possible compounds, acting as "agents affecting the NPY Y2 receptor". Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and / or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the agents claimed. Further, in claims 1 and 34, the expression "disease or disorder related to excessive formation of vascular tissue or blood vessels" covers an extremely large number of possible disorders. Support within the meaning of Article 6 PCT and / or disclosure within the meaning of Article 5 PCT is to be found, however, for only a very small proportion of the disorders claimed. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible.

Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be supported and disclosed, namely those parts related to the antisense oligonucleotides having the sequences of SEQ ID NO 2, 3, 4 and 38. Further, a search for the general aspects of the invention, covering the agents and the disorders mentioned in the description, has been carried out as far as possible. The antisense oligonucleotides having the sequences of SEQ ID NO 7-37 have also been searched.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

06/09/03

International application No.

PCT/FI 03/00487

Patent document cited in search report			Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US	5989834	A	23/11/99	AU	697271 B	01/10/98
				AU	1743295 A	21/08/95
				DE	802972 T	19/02/98
				EP	0802972 A	29/10/97
				GR	97300046 T	31/12/97
				JP	9509314 T	22/09/97
				CA	2159217 A	10/08/95
				ES	2107398 T	01/12/97
				US	5545549 A	13/08/96
				US	6420532 B	16/07/02
				US	2003162944 A	28/08/03
				WO	9521245 A	10/08/95
WO	0204518	A2	17/01/02	AU	7183801 A	21/01/02
				US	2002048791 A	25/04/02
WO	9717440	A1	15/05/97	AU	7485996 A	29/05/97
				AU	PN646795 D	00/00/00
				EP	0862627 A	09/09/98
				JP	2000500648 T	25/01/00
				US	6528303 B	04/03/03

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ BLACK BORDERS
- ☐ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☐ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☒ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☐ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☐ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.